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ENERGY PROBLEMS SPOTLIGHTED IN GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

Conservation Program

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 16 Sep 81 p 2

[Text]

The Barbados Government is to implement an energy conservation programme with possible assistance from the World Bank.

Parliamentary Secretary, Energy and Natural Resources, Senator Clyde Griffith said on Monday that Government was looking at a combination of factors given the fact that the island was experiencing severe balance of payments problems exacerbated by increased cost of imported energy.

"We are looking at a conservation programme, alternative energy systems, and an emphasis on our own domestic production which has fallen off somewhat," Senator Griffith said.

He also stated that a report had also been submitted to the

World Bank which was very much interested in giving the island assistance in the conservation programme.

He explained that Government was in the process of trying to bring together a number of experts in energy delivery systems, to get their advice, and from there, devise the programme for the benefit of Barbados.

Senator Griffith said that along with the programme, Government would be making conditions to the Barbados Light and Power Company that some type of conservation methods should be implemented.

He added that a public relations programme aimed at educating the public about the need to save energy, will be undertaken.

Editorial on Mobil Issue

Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 16 Sep 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Maximize the Oil Potential"]

[Text]

PARLIAMENTARY Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning with special responsibility for energy and natural resources, Senator Clyde Griffith, has revealed a tough line that the Government will take with Mobil Oil Company in the drive to maximise Barbados' economic benefits from its crude oil resources.

Senator Griffith toured the Barbados Light and Power Company's generating complex at Spring Garden, Black Rock, to familiarise himself with

their operation and projections for future electricity supplies. His remarks were made after the tour.

He commented on a United Nations report that Barbados could expect to extract only a third of its oil potential because of poor production methods by the American corporation Mobil Oil which is conducting exploration on the island.

The report said that regardless of how much oil was found in Barbados, the island would save the purchase of more than US\$200 million worth of imported oil through improvements in oil production at Woodbourne, the country's main oilfield. The researchers concluded that because of poor production methods and a lack of sufficient government control, Barbados could expect to produce only between two and three million barrels of oil from Woodbourne although there was a projected potential of nine million barrels in the area.

Senator Griffith said that Mobil was embarking on a deep drilling programme which had gone on at the expense of the shallow drilling programme which could bring Barbados to a level of production which it previously had or even higher. The Government's aim is to bring Barbados as near as possible to self sufficiency from domestic oil production, and the Senator emphasised that the Government will not countenance any situation where Barbados is placed at a disadvantage.

The constantly escalating price of petroleum products is a dominant factor in the current inflationary turmoil that is affecting the entire world today. Thus there is no question that Barbados must seek to realise the maximum benefits it can from its limited petroleum resources. The drastic decision taken by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to take control of the petroleum reserves of its member countries and exploit them to their own benefit rather than allow them to be siphoned off to profit the giant oil companies and fuel the economies of the rich countries, has meant that

even marginal reserves of crude oil are now economically attractive.

In the early 1950s oil exploration was put in train in Barbados, but the operation was declared economically non-viable because the reserves found were small. No one knows how many million cubic metres of natural gas were "flared off" — that is burned and wasted — during the operation which was strictly concerned with finding "marketable" sources of oil.

After the oil crisis of 1973 and in the light of the constantly rising prices the little oil known to be present in Barbados assumed a new importance and so did the considerable reserves of natural gas.

Ironically, the OPEC decision, designed to benefit the countries which own the oil reserves have also resulted in fatter profits for the oil companies, whose marketing structures are such that the increased cost passes on to consumers even as the crude price rises. Oil companies can be among the most exploitative of transnationals, as history has so dramatically demonstrated.

Senator Griffith said that Mobil wants the deep drilling programme to recoup their investment. On the other hand, Barbados needs higher production now, which appears possible from a concerted shallow drilling programme. Right now, Barbados is in the throes of an economic crisis. Only last week, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Tom Adams, introduced a "mini budget" with a number of restrictions and price increases which the people of Barbados must bear to try to pull the economy around.

There can be no doubt which priority must be served — that of Barbados. But this does not mean that a solution cannot be sought where Barbados can have the immediate increase in production she needs, and Mobil also get the long term profit from a deep drilling programme. Of course, if there is one choice, then that must go the way Barbados wants it.

[A]

PROGRAM INITIATED TO CUT DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED OIL

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 22 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

Jamaica is putting into effect an energy programme, aimed at reducing dependence on imported oil from the present 97 per cent to about 64 per cent by 1990.

The programme is based primarily on conservation, expected to save 15 per cent of the current imported energy bill, and on the development of new sources of energy, including hydro, solar, geothermal (energy from heat within the earth), and bio-mass (generation of gas from plant or animal waste).

This was outlined by the Director of Energy in the Ministry of Mining and Energy, Dr. Henry Lowe, when he opened a Caribbean Energy Symposium, sponsored by the West Indies Jaycees, at the New Kingston Hotel Knutsford Boulevard, yesterday morning.

Dr. Lowe said that in the short term, conservation offered the greatest opportunity for reducing dependence on imported fuel. A saving of 15 per cent on the import bill could be realistically attained. And by 1990, other sources of energy could provide for about a further 15 per cent of the island's energy requirements.

He said that while it was of the utmost importance to develop renewable energy, it was not realistic to expect that these would make any substantial contribution to the energy mix before eight to ten years.

ANOTHER FEATURE of Jamaica's energy programme, Dr. Lowe said, was adequate stockpiling as a hedge against disruption in imported supplies.

He said that a national energy accounting system was being developed, and should be completed by the end of this year. This would mean that the country could reliably project its energy needs and consumption growth pattern over several years in advance, and he added that Jamaica would be the first country to develop such a system.

Dr. Lowe said a proper conservation programme would in addition to lessening the bill for imported energy, result in reduced production cost.

HE ASKED HIS AUDIENCE to see conservation as being of high savings potential, as a component of the sustainable energy economy; helping to see the world situation through the next 20 to 25 years; and globally to help in achieving a more just distribution of available energy resources.

CSO: 3025/21

\$5 MILLION FUND TO BE USED TO ADVANCE SOLAR ENERGY USE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 23 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Edward Seaga has announced plans for establishing a \$5-million fund which will be used to provide solar heating systems for hospitals, clinics, hotels, and major public institutions throughout the country.

The programme, which is expected to come on stream some time next year, is a major aspect of the Government's energy action plan and will be effected through the assistance of the US Agency for International Development programme, according to the Prime Minister.

The announcement was made yesterday at the dedication and presentation ceremony of a solar heater system which has been installed at the Cornwall Regional Hospital in Montego Bay. The system was installed at a cost of \$195,000, under the instruction and funding of Citizen's Energy Corporation--an American nonprofit organization--and presented as a gift to Jamaica.

Solar water heating, Prime Minister Seaga said, had proven to be very cost effective not only in the public sector but in the private sector as well. He said there was a potential market for some 30,000 solar heaters to be produced and developed in Jamaica, for residential purposes, and he challenged investors to examine the market.

The Prime Minister also repeated his call for the establishment of an international resource centre to carry out research into alternate energy. This call was made in Nairobi, Kenya in August, in an address to the UN conference on New and Renewable Sources of Energy at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre. He said the proposal had not received favourable consideration, and it was in light of the unfavourable response that he was renewing his call in asking the President of Citizen Energy Corporation, Mr Joseph Kennedy II to consider supporting such a programme.

Mr Seaga, appealed to the scientific and industrialized nations to remember the poorer nations in their plans to develop alternate sources of energy.

CSO: 3025/21

FNM HITS UNEMPLOYMENT AS SOURCE OF DRUG INVOLVEMENT

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 12 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] As merchants complained of the growing number of young people pushing drugs on Bay Street, a branch of the FNM deplored unemployment that has caused "serious social and economic problems" for Bahamian youth.

Some young people, said a release from the Torchbearers Association of the Free National Movement, "have turned to pushing drugs to make money and, of course, using drugs themselves. As Bahamians and tourists walk Bay Street they are continuously solicited to 'buy a joint.'"

The Association said its members were deeply concerned about the "chronic unemployment" among the youth and the fact "that the PLP Government has no immediate plans for solving this number one problem of the nation."

It was estimated that about 15,000 young people are unemployed. "We have heard Government talk mostly about 1,000 new jobs at the Cable Beach Hotel. Where are the other 14,000 jobs coming from? Further more where are jobs coming from for the additional thousands leaving school each year?" the Torchbearers asked.

"The integrity of Bahamian youth," said the release, "their pride and dignity are being destroyed because of lack of employment. Before, most young Bahamians would have been ashamed to indulge in such things, but today many see it as their survival. It should not be so. We need opportunities to earn a respectable living otherwise we will be destroyed as a nation. We will lose our dignity, our integrity, our pride and our culture.

"With unemployment so high, the employers are able to pick, choose and refuse potential employees and pay them little or nothing. This is exploitation of the youth of this nation and the PLP seems incapable of doing anything about it.

"The less privileged youth, under the PLP Government have been promised, but denied a proper education and this is their country.

"The youth are not a minority group in another country, this is theirs," said the release. "The reason so many have been deprived of a proper education is because the PLP did not plan for us." The Torchbearers said it was time for the Bahamian youth to become aware of what is going on, to get involved, "to stand up and be counted."

BRIEFS

SUPPORT FOR BELIZE--The Barbados Government welcomed the emergence of Belize yesterday as a fully independent state and a member of the Commonwealth. In a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs however, the Government of Barbados declared that in the event of an armed attack against Belize, externally organised or supported, or the threat of such an attack, it would consult with the Governments of the Bahamas, Canada, Guyana, Jamaica Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom to consider what measures should be taken in relation to such an attack. The stand, the Government says, is in the spirit of support for Belizean sovereignty and territorial integrity, repeatedly expressed at Commonwealth meetings and in the United Nations. [Text] [Bridge-town ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Sep 81 p 1]

POLITICIANS IN COURT--Four politicians were brought before the High Court by the Electoral Office yesterday. They were Speaker of the House, Burton Hinds; Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Lionel Craig; Da Costa Edwards, an unsuccessful, independent candidate; and unsuccessful Barbados Labour Party candidate, Ezra Alleyne. The four had failed to comply with the Representation of the Peoples Act which states that the Chief Electoral Officer must receive a copy of the election expenses of all candidates and their election agents by a certain date. Before the High Court, which was presided over by Chief Justice, Sir William Douglas, the four requested permission to submit these expenses outside of the required time. Permission for this was granted to Hinds, Craig, Edwards and to their agents, as well as to Mr A. Shepherd, the election agent for Ezra Alleyne on the grounds that their misdemeanour was inadvertent. Yet Sir William was not satisfied with Alleyne's excuse, and refused to give him an extended period. Further action is expected to be taken against Alleyne by the Electoral Office. Action is also pending against two unsuccessful independent candidates Anthony Wiggins and Joseph Piles. [Text] [Bridgetown THE NATION in English 24 Sep 81 p 1]

TRADE WITH GUYANA--The Barbados Government is concerned about a trade imbalance in Guyana's favour of over \$2 million for the first half of this year. And the word from Trade Minister, Mr Bernard St. John is that he has directed a mission from the Export Promotion Corporation (EPC) to pay an official visit to Guyana towards sorting out this "irregular trading pattern." Mr St. John said that the imbalance is due to "quantitative restrictions on imports," imposed by the Guyana Government in an effort to ease that country's balance of payments difficulties. He noted that whereas Barbados' exports to Guyana had declined

from \$4.7 million in 1976 to \$1.2 million in 1980, imports from the South American Republic had reached \$8.8 million last year. The Trade Minister observed that while the Barbados Government appreciates the right of a member country of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), in balance of payments difficulties to introduce quantitative restrictions on imports to safeguard its balance payments, the Council of Ministers has the right and perhaps duty to review these measures if the problem persists for more than 18 months and the measures taken are seriously disturbing the operation of the Common Market. Mr St John said that the irregular trading pattern with Guyana had not lasted well over the 18-month period, and he supported the view taken by many Barbadian exporters that the time has come to seek clarification from the Guyanese authorities. The Minister said that he had directed the EPC officials, when they visit Guyana, to meet with the licencing and other trading authorities at the highest levels and to report their findings to him as a matter of urgency. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 25 Sep 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/27

BRIEFS

NEW WAGE CONTRACTS--Last night's ratification of two new contracts for 1,500 hospital workers and civil servants has opened up a new era in management and worker negotiations, Chairman of the Bermuda Hospitals Board Mr Ward Young said last night. His comments came only hours after more than 300 Bermuda Public Services Association members voted to unanimously accept the two-year contracts that will increase wages by a total of 28 percent. "The agreement has opened up a new era in negotiations between management and workers," said Mr Young. "It will pave the way for future responsible negotiations." The two separate agreements for 900 civil servants and 600 hospital workers call for an immediate increase of 16 percent in wages for all workers, plus a 12 percent increase in the second year of the contract. The second year pay rise also includes a cost of living adjustment clause to protect the workers from inflation. However, it is not triggered until the inflation rate hits 18 percent, and has a ceiling of a four percent wage increase. The previous two-year contract expired yesterday. [Excerpt] [Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 1 Oct 81 p 1]

CSO: 3025/27

RAUL CASTRO MAKES SPEECH AT MOSCOW AWARD CEREMONY**Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE 15 Sep 81 p 3**

[Speech by Raul Castro, Second Secretary of the Communist Party and Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba]

[Text] Moscow, 15 September.—Below is the text of the remarks by Raul Castro, Second Secretary of the Communist Party and Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba, during the ceremony awarding the Order of the October Revolution held today in the Kremlin.

Dear Comrade Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev,

Dear comrades and friends,

I want to thank the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet USSR with all my heart for the high honor you have given me in decorating me with the prestigious Order of the October Revolution. Allow me to express my gratitude especially to you, Dear Leonid Ilyich, for your warm and stimulating words.

I want to emphasize that this award constitutes renewed testimony of the brotherhood that links the peoples of the Soviet Union and Cuba, as well as the identity of the basic positions of our parties and states in building socialism and in the struggle for social progress and peace.

The bonds of brotherhood and solidarity which have been forged between the party and the state founded by Lenin and the Cuban revolution are already part of contemporary history. As emphasized by Comrade Fidel Castro, these are exemplary relations which prove the character of our time and the irreversible course of the revolutionary processes as we observe with firmness and loyalty the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism.

The recent maneuvers of the Soviet Armed Forces, which we had a fortunate opportunity to observe, once again show the mastery of the Soviet fighting men, the power and effectiveness of modern equipment and weapons which safeguard the peaceful work of the Soviet people and represent a solid shield for the peoples of the socialist community and all humanity against the adventurous and warmongering circles of imperialism.

We are proud of our arms comradeship with the armed forces of the USSR whose collaboration enables us today to have the means necessary to defend the sovereignty of our fatherland and to preserve the gains of the revolution.

Comrades, you may always be sure that the Cuban people, the Communist Party of Cuba and our Revolutionary Armed Forces will be worthy of that solidarity and will with honor, as they have done until now, discharge their patriotic and internationalist duties.

Many thanks.

5058

CSO:3010/48

HIGHER EDUCATION MINISTER DISCUSSES UNIVERSITY WORK

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE 15 Sep 81 p 6

[Interview with Higher Education Minister Engineer Fernando Vecino Alegret by Angel Rodriguez Hernandez: "Toward Higher Education"]

[Text] The academic failure of many first-year students, due to the fact that they have to study harder--how scholarship students could improve their skills--text book situation--responsibility of teaching institutions in view of the worries of students--and other interesting topics.

University education which, prior to the dawn of 1959, accommodated barely 15,000 students, is one of those sectors which have kept growing constantly in Cuba.

Since the new academic year has just started, we think that this might be a good opportunity to learn more about the way in which this academic year is beginning and how the Higher Education Ministry is coping with some difficulties detected during the prior term. Nobody is better to answer these questions than Engineer Fernando Vecino Alegret, Party Central Committee member and Minister of Higher Education.

One warm afternoon in September, we met in his office with a tape recorder, several cassettes, and a long list of questions.

We started of course with the first question. It had to do with the conditions created for the format of this interview in which we dispensed with formalities in order to have a frank conversation.

First of all, he told us that his ministry--which has just celebrated its fifth anniversary--methodically takes care of everything in the field of higher education and administratively runs a portion of the centers operating throughout the nation.

"We are beginning this term," he said, "with more than 200,000 students. This figure, which represents more than 2 percent of the population, is a high indicator, in international terms.

"The material base including building structures improved the living conditions in most of the centers; and as far as laboratories are concerned--something which directly influences the quality of education--we have also made progress since

during the prior 5-year term, we made some purchases which, combined with those which we are beginning to make now, will improve an as yet weak aspect in some centers.

"The institutions also have been working hard in training new teaching personnel, fundamentally within the Student Aid Movement. We also had successes in giving our professors advanced instruction. We are very satisfied with them because they are self-sacrificing and they have acquired pedagogic mastery while further developing their knowledge in their particular special fields."

If you study hard you will be successful.

There is one topic which is of special interest to the minister and it has to do with the way the students put in their hours of individual study; this is the touchstone, as he called it, for attaining ever higher levels in human knowledge. This is the purpose behind the effort to get more than 85.1 percent graduation during the preceding academic year, compared to the initial registration, but there is also an even greater improvement in quality here.

"In higher education," he told us, "you have to study consistently every day from the first week of classes. That is not astonishing since we gave the students at some centers guidance as to how to divide their time among the various subjects.

"There is now doubt that if you study hard, you will be successful. You have to devote yourself to this activity no less than 20 hours per week and there are special fields which, because of their complexity, require even more attention.

"We have seen students who arrived at our centers with 95, 96, and 97 points, on the average, in other words, an excellent report card; nevertheless, they do not study sufficiently from the very beginning and they drop out during the first year. The secret is to study--and if you do so, you will be able to handle your programs.

"The first thing of importance here is the student's individual attitude and the actions of the group in making him understand that studying is his social duty.

"The institution is also responsible and in the center the important thing is to help the student so that he will have the necessary initial impetus which he needs to devote himself consistently to study from the very first moment on and so that he will not be taken by surprise when the tests come; his advisor must guide the student toward the correct distribution of the various tests and, from the political view point, he must emphasize his role as educator."

Everybody at Work

The topic is interesting and, in continuing its coverage, we asked about the ways of influencing the students so that they will devote more time to the textbooks during their spare time. At that point he told us that provision has been made for the lecturers to ask control questions during each classroom session to grade the answers right away. The student gets this daily evaluation in front of his fellow students and classroom work is also checked out.

"But when it comes to graduation," he added, "we must cooperate, all of us, including the parents, because there are families that bring habits to higher education which spring from high school or college preparatory school, where the boy goes home each week.

"There are thousands of scholarship students who go home over the weekend and who lose many hours seeking transportation. The university student does not manage to get all the time he needs to study from Monday to Friday and he has to use a major portion of the weekend to prepare himself.

"We know that you study less at home and this is harmful because it interferes with his development as a professional man.

"Right now we are conducting a survey which will last several years; but the results will tell us that there is no difference between the academic performance of the scholarship students and that of the day students even though you may theoretically assume that the scholarship student is studying under better conditions. The problem is that the day students to a great extent go home on Saturday and Sunday.

"It also has to be pointed out that, on certain occasions, the centers have not created better conditions so that the student will be able to spend a pleasant weekend. There have been problems with the dining halls; there are no recreation facilities, etc. We have taken steps and we know that the institutions are working on this and, in some cases, complete programs are being worked out with the involvement of the UJC [Union of Young Communists] and the FEU [Federation of University Students] so that the scholarship student, in addition to studying over the weekend at the center, may also get food and recreation."

Special Attention during First Years

The Achilles' heel in university education has been the insufficient utilization of our teaching potential and on top of that we have the academic dropouts involving first-year students. For example, promotion from the first year in all special fields only came to 70 percent during the last academic year while the figure was 83 percent for the second year.

This is a matter of the utmost concern for the entire Higher Education Ministry and it seems to us that the words of the interviewee sound very forceful when he says:

"In spite of the work which was done in recent years to improve the quality of education and the educational process, we still have 30 percent dropouts during the first year in the daytime sessions and 14 percent in the second year, compared to those who began the first year. This is a very high figure. We have to reduce it but this has to be done through more study because there are work requirements which we cannot drop because advancement must be achieved on the basis of knowledge, so that a professional man, in addition to being loyal to the working people, will have the capacity demanded of a university graduate nowadays.

"We are devoting a large portion of our efforts to working with the students during the first years. During the third, fourth, and fifth years there are some dropouts but they are less significant and they are more connected with problems of health or other types of problems, not specifically with academic output.

"We have to see to it that the students will, from the very first year onward, develop their capacities, their habits, that they will learn to love the special field which they have gotten into because of its merits. A student may study a special field which he voluntarily agreed to go into or which he wanted to go into but there are times when he no longer likes the subject and we have to let him know the importance of that particular profession to the country's growth.

"Promotion from the first year must also raise him to a qualitatively higher base. The students must devote attention to that from the very first day of classes on so that they will not flunk. That takes much individual study, much self-discipline."

Solution: Textbook Situation

We think that academic performance can be decisively influenced by some material difficulties, such as the insufficient completion of text books. Questioned on that score, Vecino Alegret answered: "There is no doubt that the lack of books plays a role but that is not fundamental. The main factor involves the student, first of all, and the professor, next.

"Regarding books as such, we have the largest number we have ever had in higher education in Cuba; even so, we have shortages, especially during the final years.

"But, for example, during the first and second years, book requirements have been met 90 percent; that is much higher than the percentage during the other years of study and the books that are not available during those years for the most part involve subjects that are not fundamental.

"In this case, the low promotion rate is not due to the lack of textbooks. Here, the decisive factor is the student. The institutions have made a major effort in pedagogic work so that the student may get the maximum amount of learning; however, not everybody can adjust to the rigors of that type of teaching; that is something they would achieve if they would study hard from the very first day of classes on.

"During the fifth year we have approximately 50 percent of the necessary books; that is the most critical situation because during that course we already begin to note an improvement.

"Recently we opened a booklet printing plant under the Ministry of Culture. This unit was set up to meet the higher education needs and is putting out an enormous number of titles in short form, adapted to our necessities. It is specifically designed for this purpose, it is profitable, economical, and we can already feel its existence by virtue of the books it has printed. Conditions are better and will continue to improve.

Graduate Placement

During some student meetings, which we attended, we heard about the concerns of some of the youngsters concerning the academic evaluation system because on some occasions graduates, who did not have the best attitude during the course of study, were placed in important jobs and they did not have the best qualifications either, while the most responsible and hard-working graduates were assigned to work places of lesser professional interest.

"In the ministry and the other organizations involved," the minister replied, "we are trying to find out the fairest way to place the graduates. We know that in some cases there has been discontent and they are not entirely without justification; but this is a very complex phenomenon which has to do with the changes that arise in the country regarding employment."

"When somebody who does not deserve it has been given a better job, that is a problem that has to be corrected. Our ministry participates in the solution of this phenomenon and we think that we will soon be able to come up with a definite answer to that question."

Links to Students

Another point of interest to us was the ministry's policy regarding the handling of concerns and suggestions from the student mass. Here is what Vecino Alegret had to say on that:

"The institutions have an obligation to respond to the concerns of the students and to come up with the necessary explanations."

"The capable student management familiarizes itself with the problems through its direct contact with the students, during the meetings of the UJC and the FEU, and during the student dormitory meetings."

"It has been directed that the institutional managers, the university presidents and deans, maintain periodic contact with the students, by schools or groups, in accordance with the size of the center. It might happen that, in some places, this relationship is accomplished through the student leaders; this is an important link but it must not be the only one since there must also be direct and systematic contacts with the mass of students."

The product supply situation concerning personal items going to the student dormitories is also a topic of concern to the scholarship students because there have been shortages here.

"As for those articles," he says, "the decisions that were made by the supply organizations is that those items are to be distributed only among foreign scholarship students. Our own Cuban scholarship students will have to get them through the country's commercial network."

"In spite of that, looking at each individual case, depending upon the distance that separates some of the students from their homes, we have given support to the idea

of selling those products in certain centers, in coordination with the people's government."

We asked him about the operation of the dining rooms, which is not always satisfactory. He emphasized the following in this connection: "This supply situation tends to improve. For example, this is what is happening in the ISPJAE [Jose Antonio Echeverria Higher Polytechnic Institute]. However, there are places where this is not true and that has to be resolved directly through the institutions with the help of the people's government and the agencies to whom the centers are directly subordinated. We are giving maximum support to the institutions managements in this task because, when the dining room does not work properly, the students are becoming disgusted and that is especially true of the day students because dining room capacity is taken up with all these many scholarship students."

Work-Study Programs

We next moved on to the practice of production which also has revealed deficiencies in terms of application and objective attainment. The minister stressed the importance of this task because this is the way of expressing the pedagogic and revolutionary concept of work-study.

He told us that registration has gone up tremendously and each student must do work related with his major field of study for 4, 6, or 8 weeks; this is a complex process which requires the full support of the local organizations of the party, the people's government, and the work centers.

He noted that this activity is improving and that it will improve even more as soon as a legal instrument, a decree-law, provides standards regarding the responsibilities of each and every one. He also alerted us to the fact that sometimes students are assigned to work centers to perform activities which go beyond their professional profile because, although these are isolated cases, they constitute deficiencies and, where this sort of thing happens, it has to be reported.

Significant Achievement

There is one task which undoubtedly constitutes an achievement in the education of future specialists and that involves the link between them, during the last years of their studies, with the sugar mills. Once they have graduated, they go back there to practice.

"The general evaluation is good because, among other questions, the country's first industry has received more than 1,300 university students and more than 500 of them have already graduated and are working there.

"This is a big help to the economy and, besides, their diploma studies, in most cases, have an important content in terms of the technical work that has to be done in the industry, the kind of work which they do there. This has been high-quality training and the results have been so positive that we are planning to expand this experience to the basic and steel industries as well as the machine-building industry.

"There had been shortcomings regarding the guidance effort pertaining to some work in the past academic year; but we know the causes and we will take the necessary measures to correct the situation during this academic year and to perfect this beautiful plan."

Many aspects remained to be covered but more than 2 hours had passed and time was getting short. We had taken many notes, the cassettes had been filled with recordings, and we are now convinced that we are advancing to ever better university education with sure steps and steady hand.

5058
CSO:3010/48

PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED ON SDAR FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 20 Sep 81 p 5

[Communiqué on the visit of Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Minister of Foreign Relations Hakim Brahim, issued in Havana on 17 September 1981]

[Text] From 10 through 16 September comrade Hakim Brahim, minister of foreign relations of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR), made an official visit to Cuba following an invitation by comrade Isidoro Malmierca, member of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party and minister of foreign relations.

In the course of this visit comrade Hakim was received by Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, a meeting that took place in a fraternal atmosphere during which the Cuban people's solidarity with the Saharan people's heroic struggle was reiterated. Comrades Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Politburo and member of the party Central Committee Secretariat, and Isidoro Malmierca, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign relations, participated in the meeting.

During his stay in Cuba comrade Hakim engaged in conversations at the Foreign Office in which many issues concerning international developments having to do with peoples' struggles against colonialism and imperialism and the growing dangers that threaten world peace in the face of the provocations and aggressions of imperialism and its agents.

The Saharan minister of foreign relations expressed his firm support of Cuba during a period of renewed imperialist attacks against the Cuban Revolutionary Government.

Cuba once again reiterated its unfailing support of the SDAR's heroic struggle for self-determination and independence. The conversations that were held furthermore served to make public the high level of bilateral relations. The SDAR was represented by Minister of Foreign Relations Hakim Brahim and Bulahe Mohamed Fadel, member of the Political Bureau of the POLISARIO [Popular Front for the Liberation of Sagui el Hamra and Rio de Oro (Western Sahara)] Front and ambassador in Cuba.

Comrades Isidoro Malmierca, member of the Central Committee and minister of foreign relations, MINREX [Ministry of Foreign Relations] Vice Minister Giraldo Mazola, Arturo Barber, director for North Africa and the Middle East, and Raul Barzaga, Cuban ambassador in the SDAR, participated on behalf of Cuba.

During his visit comrade Hakim Brahim held a fraternal meeting with comrade Jesus Montane, alternate member of the Cuban Communist Party Politburo and head of the Central Committee's General Department of Foreign Relations.

He also met with Dr Julio Teja, alternate member of the Central Committee and interim minister of public health, who gave him a full explanation of the development and state of public health in Cuba.

Minister Hakim Brahim visited the Isle of Youth, where he toured various sites of historical, economic and cultural interest, as well as the Valles de Picadura Genetic Plan where he was attended by comrade Ramon Castro.

11,466
CSO: 3010/71

WORK OF CAMILO CIENFUEGOS ARTILLERY SCHOOL DESCRIBED

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 24 Sep 81 p 2

[Article by Ada Mendez]

[Text] Northeast of Havana, scarcely 5 minutes from the heart of the capital, the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] Comandante Camilo Cienfuegos Artillery School stands erect. Twenty Aprils of existence speak volumes for its accomplishments: the training of high-level operations, technical and political cadres for the safeguarding of our soil.

What was once an old fortress in La Cabana is today a modern school for revolutionary cadets, a true forge for young officers.

Within its three big faculties new specialized fields are taught: four of them dealing with ground artillery, two with antiaircraft artillery and three with weapons and equipment maintenance.

Any young man with a higher than average educational background who is between 17 and 20 years of age, physically fit and has the moral values necessary for being a member of the FAR cadre can apply for enrollment.

There he will take courses in mathematics, physics, chemistry, theoretical mechanics, resistance of materials, applied radicelectronics and other subjects that will provide him with the basis for an understanding of military subjects properly speaking.

On Completion

On completion of his studies, every graduate will receive the rank of first lieutenant, having reached an intermediate level of military training and, simultaneously, a level of general and advanced technical training which, as far as operational study programs are concerned, guarantee his classification as an engineer qualified to operate equipment or technical radio devices and facilities.

Programs for the training of operational cadre (engineers in the operation of equipment) and political experts (with degrees in the social sciences) are for a period of 4 years and those that produce engineers specialized in specific techniques or equipment 5 years, but their training does not end with this. The graduate must go on improving his skills on the basis of his personal experience and individual study, which will also enable him to take courses at the Gen Maximo Gomez FAR Academy and through them acquire the highest level of military training.

Those who would like to concentrate on research can do so, either by going into the subjects they have graduated in more deeply or through systematization and invention, whereby they create the conditions that permit them to opt to become candidates for the degree of Doctor of Military Sciences with a higher level of scientific development.

The future cadets come from preuniversity and technological institutes that may or may not be associated with the specialized fields they study in them.

At the present time the facilities are being renovated through modernization of laboratories and workshops with high-quality and precision equipment which will permit cadets to perform tasks and scientific research and practice teaching methods.

Six hours of daily classes, independent study, physical training, sports, political, educational and recreational activities and leisure time make up the lives of the future officers during their stay at the academy. They are issued passes every weekend and those who are taking course in the final years of their study programs are authorized leave during the week. There are also passes earned through merit or issued as incentives.

There are two vacations a year: one in February, lasting 10 days, and the other in July and August at the end of the academic year.

Each cadet receives a scholarship from the time he is enrolled and, as he progresses with the years and assumes responsibilities, his financial allowance is increased.

Director As an Example

The director of the school, Col Adan Hernandez, may serve as an example of the degree of advancement a student at the Comandante Camilo Cienfuegos FAR Artillery School can attain. He is the founder of this institution, which he knows down to his fingertips because he has passed through all its levels of education and has become its third director.

He lovingly relates the history of this school that is already part of his life. Needed by the revolutionary government to train more competent artillery cadres, it was founded on 11 September 1961 through a merger of what was then a training center enclosed in Barbacoa, a school called Eduardo Garcia located in La Coronela and the military training institution then operating in La Cabana.

At first it was called the Artillery College and retained that designation for 2 years. In 1963 regular long-term programs for cadets were introduced and it was then that the name, Camilo Cienfuegos, was adopted. Since then, year after year hundreds of young men who today serve as ground and antiaircraft artillery operations cadres have passed through its classrooms.

Naturally, the level of sophistication has been rising, with regard to the requirements as well as the institution itself, as the revolutionary government has itself become more mature and the country has raised its own level.

And as a result of the scientific and technical development of the FAR and the incorporation of more modern military techniques, it is becoming more and more

necessary to find better-trained officers. This is why, in accordance with Decree No 14 of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers, it was in 1977 decided to assign the school to the category of institution of higher learning which it today boasts of and which enabled it to graduate cadets with 16 intermediate-level promotions and the first college-level officer training program to its credit in July of this year.

With all the excellence and merit it has earned, the Comandante Camilo Cienfuegos FAR Artillery School is proud of being a pillar of defense of the revolutionary government. Its graduates are to be found all over Cuba sowing their example.

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OFFICIAL GIVES DETAILS ON CENSUS PROCEDURES

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 11 Sep 81 pp 42-43

[Interview with Fidel Vascos Gonzalez, minister-chairman of the State Committee for Statistics, by Raul Lazo: "At the Doorway to the Census"]

[Text] Although through the title of this interview, "At the Doorway to the Census," with Fidel Vascos Gonzalez, minister-chairman of the State Committee for Statistics, the reporter tried to emphasize the imminent beginning of activities involved in the population and housing census, we might also have called it -- perhaps more appropriately -- "The Census Knocks at Your Door," because beginning on 11 September and continuing until the 20th, a contingent of some 70,000 census takers will knock at the doors of approximately 2.2 million homes in the country to speak with residents and fill out the questionnaires. Once processed, the data they collect will be used to complete studies and make important decisions for the economic and social development of the country.

But this time it was not the door of a home that was opened to greet the census taker, but rather, that of the very State Committee for Statistics to receive the reporter, who submitted a questionnaire to the head of that organization, Fidel Vascos Gonzalez, a questionnaire which, while it is not precisely the census form, is nevertheless directly related to the population and housing census.

[Question] Mr Minister, we know that you have practically just completed a visit to all the provinces in the country to learn how preparations are going for the census-taking task. We should therefore like to know what impressions you had during your tour.

[Answer] In meetings held on the eve of the census, all participants in the work were present: members of the provincial coordinating committees, chairmen and deputy chairmen of the municipal coordinating committees, heads of the census offices and party and government officials from the different levels. The meetings were presided over by the second party secretaries in the provinces and even, in the case of Havana City, First Secretary Julio Camacho Aguilera, member of the party's Politburo, participated.

The purpose of the meetings was for every municipality to report on its situation and on preparations for the census. We can say that all the provinces are very well prepared in general for the census taking. Some small details still had to be

worked out, as in the case of Santiago de Cuba Province, for example, where, at the time the meeting was held, certain aspects relating to the supervisors had to be spelled out. In Las Tunas also, it was necessary to work out certain details having to do with recruiting the entire staff of census takers and supervisors, that is, to complete 20 percent of the reserves. One aspect that greatly concerned the provinces and us as well was the situation of means of transport required by the provinces and municipalities in order to complete the census, since it is unthinkable that the country's means of transport would be idle during the mobilization for the census. It is therefore necessary to achieve very close coordination so that, without affecting the country's economy, we can use those means.

Concerning the plan of communications, great emphasis was placed on the organization of communications. One must emphasize the contribution made by the Ministry of Communications and all the factors involved in it. A very good system was set to communicate with all census areas. There are 1,140 offices open throughout the country, which must communicate with the municipalities and these in turn with the provinces. The provinces must then communicate with the nation in order to maintain a daily report on the count so that we can keep track of progress in all areas and give any instructions or make any kind of consultation. In short, since the census is completed in only 10 days, communication must be very fast. The system has been set up and is operating.

We also reviewed the quality of the seminars held for counters, supervisors and area office workers. They last 5 days and in them we explain the census methodology and organization and train census takers so that they will know how to introduce themselves, what documents they must take. Briefly, they must master the census-taking methods in order to help the people provide the correct information and thereby obtain optimum quality. At the end of the seminars, the census taker knows precisely what 40 or 50 homes make up the segment where he will work. Although the census organization is adjusted to the political-administrative division on the national, provincial and municipal level, each of the latter is subdivided into various census areas totaling 1,140. Every area is subdivided into several districts (14,117) and every district in turn is subdivided into segments, of which there are 55,577. A census taker covers a segment including 40 to 50 homes in that area. At the conclusion of the seminar, every supervisor is given a portfolio defining the number of segments under his responsibility and every census taker is given a guide with the list of the 40 or 50 homes he is to visit, including the address of each one, the number of residents in each one and the name of the head of that household.

The vast majority of the census takers are residents of the very zone or segment in which they work, meaning that they know the area well. Once the seminar is over, the census takers must make a tour of their areas and visit all homes in order to correct the list and even speak with residents, clearing up any doubts they might have.

[Question] This does not mean that the questionnaire could be filled out at that very moment?

[Answer] No, the time of the census, the moment to which census data refer, is midnight on 10 September, although the counting will begin at 0800 hours on the

morning of 11 September. The census taker cannot make his survey before that time. However, anything done to prepare for and facilitate responses to the census questionnaire is to be welcomed. In this sense, practically all the provinces have done something we consider very appropriate: We are referring to the reproduction of the census questionnaire in order to familiarize the people with it. Census takers will give residents of the homes they are to visit that reproduction of the questionnaire to be used as a draft. Hundreds of thousands, millions, of these forms have been printed. Havana City alone printed 600,000. This means that in the days preceding the census, the people have been given a seminar, since when the census taker passes out the form, he talks with residents and explains how they answer the questions that require a certain degree of preparation or any searching for the information.

[Question] What might those questions be?

[Answer] These are not questions that are difficult to answer or that are so complex that they are complicated. Rather, they are simply questions that might require some preparation or consultation between the members of the census group. For example, regarding the time when the housing was built, it may be necessary to ask a neighbor who has lived longer in the area than the actual resident of the house. It should be clarified that this period of construction refers precisely to broad periods including several years, for example, if it was built before 1920 or between 1920 and 1933, and so on. In addition, the person answering the questionnaire may need to have previously consulted with members of the census nucleus before the visit of the census taker in order to determine the birth date of each one of them, the place of residence previous to 10 October 1976, the highest grade of schooling successfully completed, the highest level of schooling totally completed, what was done the week before the day of the census: All these questions should be answered for the persons falling into the category referring to each one of them. Finally, the member of the census group answering the questionnaire must have in his possession the economic data card for residents in that housing unit that they received from their work center.

He stated at the meetings to which we were referring at the beginning of the interview that we were aiming for optimum quality in the census.

[Question] And how can we measure the optimum quality of the population and housing census?

[Answer] We could say that it means an absence of errors commonly made, such as omissions or completely missing homes or residents. We must do our utmost to see that this does not happen or, if possible, see that such omissions do not occur, although that is very difficult to do. We hope that the census will have less than 1 percent errors, no more than .5 percent errors, which would mean a high-quality census.

[Question] Internationally speaking, what percentage of errors is admissible in a census?

[Answer] About 1.5 percent. The socialist countries nearly all have under 1 percent. According to the official results given by the United States, the census completed in April 1980 had 2.5 percent errors and some Latin American countries

have nearly 3 percent. The counting period will run from 11 to 20 September and the surveys that will be made to determine quality will be from 25 September to 5 October. We shall revisit 40,000 homes out of the over 2 million that exist. Another aspect of quality has to do with the fact that the responses gathered in the census have to do with the characteristics of the homes and the population. Since the questions are known ahead of time, the people answer with an X. For example, for the type of housing, what we want is for the X to be placed in the box opposite the place visited, that is, if it is a house, apartment, a room in a dormitory or home, an improvised hut. Errors made here are called "content errors." This will also be evaluated through the survey.

[Question] And have you made demonstrations to avoid these errors?

[Answer] Yes, we have. But when the census taker is given his guide, he visits the homes and that is when the list is completed -- that is, the list is completed practically 24 hours before 10 September. The date of 9 September is when the municipalities close the lists of homes that have to be visited and on that basis, we see how the count is going.

We must emphasize the support we have received from the party and government organs at all levels, as well as from the mass organizations such as the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution], the FMC [Cuban Women's Federation], ANAP [Association of Small Farmers], the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Workers], and in general, from the entire population. In addition, we have had the broad publicity given to the population census. The latter is particularly important because we must do our utmost to see that the people cooperate in being included in the census. In cases in which family groups must move between 11 and 20 September, it is necessary for them to inform the census areas, which have been open since 5 August, in order to explain their case and make sure that all measures are taken to guarantee that they will be included in the census. Telephone numbers have been published so that the people may call to explain their case when they have some problem. The people must make every effort to be counted and to become an element through which we can correct any error.

[Question] Will daily reports be given on the census and is there any emulation in order to reward the best workers?

[Answer] Every day, reports will be received from the municipalities of how many homes have been completed out of those that must be counted. This report will be made public every day at 2200 hours. This must not be interpreted to mean that we want the census to be over with in a hurry. There are 10 days allotted and we do not want it to be completed in 72 hours. We are essentially interested in quality and on that basis, we are setting up the principles of the emulation. To give a hypothetical case, a province that finishes the census in 5 days, but with poorer quality than one taking 10, will lose the competition with the latter.

In speaking about the publication of the census results, the minister-chairman of the State Committee for Statistics pointed out that the first results will be made known on 30 October, including all homes in Cuba, in every province and municipality, as well as the type of home. The total population of the country will be given, divided by provinces and municipalities, sex and age groups. These data will be

compared with those from the previous census. The information supplied by 30 October is called preliminary data and that given in May 1982 is advance data. This will be much broader than the other, although it is not yet considered definitive. Beginning in the first quarter of 1982, we shall provide the data by province, which is the way in which the information will be processed. As it is processed, on a provisional basis, the data will be released to the public. The first province will be Cienfuegos. The processing of the data by province will last approximately one month for each one. A volume will be published for each province, 15 in all, including the special municipality of Isle of Youth. When the provinces are done, the nation will be processed and a volume will be published for all of Cuba, in addition to another on methodological questions. The census volumes will number 17 in all. By October 1983, we shall have all the information processed. But that is not all. Starting at that time, we shall have programmed a whole series of studies and analytical publications based on these basic materials. The census is an invaluable source of data to be used, not only by the State Committee for Statistics, but also by other organizations.

Finally, responding to a question put to him by the reporter concerning the participation of international organizations in the census, the minister-chairman of the State Committee for Statistics emphasized that both CEMA and the United Nations promote what is called the World Census Program for the 1980's. "We received technical aid and we have in the State Committee for Statistics a group of Soviet advisers and experts from other countries to help us. Coming as temporary advisers and observers will be representatives of the UN Office of Statistics and ECLA [Economic Commission for Latin America]. We shall also have representatives of statistical organs of other countries such as Nicaragua, Panama, Angola and Mexico, in order to learn of our experience."

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CUBAN-AFRICAN FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION ELECTS NEW LEADERS

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 18 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] The presentation of members of the Cuban-African Friendship Association, which was attended by the African delegations to the 68th Interparliamentary Conference, representatives of the diplomatic offices of African countries accredited in Cuba and our country's organizations and agencies, was held at Cuban Institute for Friendship with Peoples (ICAP) headquarters.

Armando Acosta, alternate member of the party Politburo and president of the association, was charged with the presentation speech.

Martha Depres, Brigade General Gustavo Chui and Jose Arias were confirmed as vice presidents. Rosario Fernandez, Rene Leon, Maria Ruiz Bravo, Alipio Zorilla, Adolfo Valdivia and Armando Entralgo were named as new vice presidents.

Rolando Oliva, Manuel Moreno Fraginals, Jose Prado, Jose Luciano Franco, Pedro Deschamps Chapeaux, Jose A. Benitez, Juan Marrero, Benito Narey Ramos, Jesus Cos Causse, Felipe Suarez, Argelier Leon, Juan Pardo, Elena Perez Marbons and Raul Aguilera were confirmed as members. Iosuani Garcia and Rafael Mayo are new members and Augusto Veranes Vedey was confirmed as executive secretary.

After the presentation ceremony, Armando Acosta referred to the significance of the reorganization of the association at a time when imperialists and reactionaries are stepping up their criminal activities against the progressive African countries and more especially against the Front Line countries.

Referring to the South African attack on Angola, he reiterated "our vigorous condemnation of this loathsome crime committed by the apartheid regime, the most repudiated and shameless one on earth."

Acosta greeted the African delegations to the 68th Interparliamentary Conference and reaffirmed the Cuban people's solidarity with the peoples of Africa, who are struggling for a better life and equality among men. And lastly he said that we are a Latin-African people and, just as African blood flows through our veins, we are ready to shed it for our brothers who are fighting.

11,466
CSO: 3010/73

VEIGA, MIRET ATTEND FIFTH SNTM CONGRESS IN HAVANA

Meeting Begins

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 16 Sep 81 p 1

[Article by Evelio Telleria and Rebeca Antunez]

[Text] "We have to play our role as counterbalance, not fear anything and defend what is just and beneficial for the revolution. We must make everyone see this. We must educate our working class in the best fighting traditions of the sector. Everyone must recognize the leading role of the union movement and fight to solve all the problems, no matter how big, like our unforgettable captain of the working class, teacher of union cadres, our beloved comrade /Lazaro Pena/ [in boldface]."

This was part of the Main Report presented to the Fifth SNTM [National Union of Metalworkers] Congress which is being held in the Lazaro Pena auditorium of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions]. The opening session was presided over by Pedro Miret, member of the Political Bureau, and by Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the CTC and alternate member of the Political Bureau.

Unquestionably, this labor organization has a great task in front of it. The most important is to improve its poor ties with the base since this hinders union work.

According to what was indicated, the union has not been aggressive about finding and proposing solutions to the most pressing problems of the workers.

The main report presented by Angel Villarreal, chairman of the organizing committee for the congress, boldly discussed this situation and enlarged on it. The document stated: "The SNTM has not been able to exercise its most important function: that of counterbalance."

It can be stated that many of the problems of the workers in this sector, even the economic ones, have had to do with the poor tie of the union with the base, its attitude of "let the administration do it" and its failure to exercise its role as counterbalance in production leadership.

Now, facing this awakening of the metalworkers where concrete results like the fulfillment by the national union of its visiting program to the base and meetings with bureaus, secretariats and provincial committees can already be seen, it is up to the administrations to offer maximum support.

An example of the effort of the workers in the sector to eliminate the problems is that they have come to this great event "with a union movement that has been strengthened from the base to the national level, capable of confronting the great tasks that the development of the steelworking branch demands," according to the report.

Main Report

According to the main report read during the morning session, the technical-economic plans for 1980 totaled 561,562,100 pesos but only reached 546,273,500 pesos.

The effort made by all the workers, especially in the second half of the year, was pointed out. At the end of the first half, they were behind about 30 million pesos but it was possible to recover 26 million.

It should be stated that this sector was seriously hurt last year by a shortage of basic raw materials for production. This situation stabilized to some degree last June.

In the first half of this year, positive results have already been achieved. The plan was overfulfilled by about 3 percent and the planned cost was reduced from 90 centavos to 77; also productivity rose to 4,831 pesos.

The document also presents the work done by innovators and efficiency experts who have made significant contributions through their pertinacity.

It should be pointed out that 489 innovations provided economic results of more than 15 million pesos.

Also this year, in salute to the 10th WFTU Congress, the union will celebrate the Foundry of Friendship and established a special mini-emulation saluting "Metalworker's Day" which will be held on 3 November.

Special Speech

Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the CTC and alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CC [Central Committee] of the party, gave a special speech on the anticipated collection of union dues.

Veiga revealed that payment of union dues is a thermometer that measures the work that the union sections are developing in each work center.

According to Veiga, the workers react by not paying their union dues when an arbitrary measure or a measure that has not been explained to them is applied. They feel that their union has not defended their cause as well as it could which has led to their dissatisfaction.

Finally, he suggested to the congress that it propose to the CTC leadership that the concern in this group about the anticipated collection of union dues be examined.

Afternoon Session

During the afternoon session, the delegates gave many suggestions about the main report--which was unanimously approved--and about other subjects. One was that

the elected SNTM committee supervise, implement and control everything related to the movement and the stability of the cadres, the adoption of measures for control and demand in the fulfillment of Decree Law 13 on safety and hygiene, analysis of the problems Resolution 236 on production norms faces in the sector and attention to the young workers to make them stay in the sector.

Other recommendations approved were the improvement of environmental working conditions for female comrades, the strengthening of the mini-emulation of the socialist brigades and of union activism and coordination with the appropriate organizations to solve the problems of work shoes.

Support Fidel's Speech to 68th Interparliamentary Conference

The delegates to the Fifth SNTM Congress unanimously approved the statement of the CTC executive secretariat in support of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro's speech at the opening of the 68th World Conference of the Interparliamentary Union.

The document indicated that the metalworkers, in their fifth congress, summon all the workers of the country to completely endorse comrade Fidel's masterly speech. It clearly established the firm position of our revolution facing the constant threats and aggression that the fascist team installed in the White House directs against mankind today.

This labor group that so decidedly accepted Fidel's statements has been discussing the most urgent problems of the metalworking sector during this first workday of the congress.

Meeting Continues

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 17 Sep 81 p 1

[Article by Rebeca Antunez and Telleria Alfaro]

[Text] "This congress can be a dividing line between a stage of mistakes and problems, caused basically by the use of incorrect work methods, and a new stage characterized by unity, collective work, a critical and self-critical spirit, a close tie between the top level of the union, the intermediate leadership organizations and the working masses and, in short, the application of correct work methods."

These words spoken by Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the CTC and alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the party, during the closing ceremony of the Fifth SNTM Congress served to evaluate the past activity of this union which is now reestablished to work at an accelerated pace.

Veiga indicated that the intermediate and top leadership organizations of the national unions are more efficient and work stability is increasing. Nevertheless, this progress in the whole union movement has not been seen in the SNTM.

The immediate prospects in that branch are now determined by the new national committee elected. According to Veiga, it is a good committee headed as of today by Angel Villarreal Bravo, a metalworker of experience and maturity who has won the affection and respect of all.

During the final session of the congress, it was reported that Havana Province will be the site of the national celebration of Metalworker's Day by winning the place of honor in the special emulation. Pinar del Rio came in second and Guantanamo was third.

The ceremony which was attended by thousands of metalworkers from the Havana provinces was presided over by: Pedro Miret, member of the Political Bureau of the party; members of the CC; Agapito Figueroa, second secretary of the CTC; Marcos Lage, minister of the steelworking industry; other leaders; and foreign guests.

Morning Session

The second and last workday began with a special speech by Marcos Lage, minister of the steelworking industry. He referred to the need to reinforce the work of the administration and the union concerning safety and hygiene and the improvement of working conditions for different jobs.

Lage listed the economic achievements of the first half of the year when production grew by more than 30 percent compared to the same period in 1980. He pointed out the efforts that have been made in the manufacture of spare parts; the plan was fulfilled by 86 percent. He indicated that this sector has been hurt by the inadequate supply of tool boxes and cutting tools.

The minister summarized some lines of production where there is already improvement or it is planned. These include the manufacture of automotive equipment, agricultural machinery, color televisions and transistors.

Resolutions Approved

The delegates approved the final resolution of the congress which emphasizes the willingness of the metalworkers to continue joining the MTT [Territorial Militia], achieve greater participation in production assemblies and assemblies of representatives and discuss guideline figures.

It was also agreed "to suggest to the CTC and the CETSS [State Committee for Labor and Social Security] possible modifications to Resolution 236 on the revision of norms since it was felt that the established indices actually hinder increased productivity by the workers, thus limiting the development of the organizations in this sector."

Other aspects covered in the document refer to continued progress in the 10th WFTU Congress Emulation and in the mini-emulation between enterprises and branches, development of technical qualification courses and the continued fight for the correct application of Decrees 32 and 36.

The resolution on the manufacture and recovery of spare parts emphasizes that the administration report fulfillment of plans for those components in the production assemblies and that a special emulation between enterprises, shops, departments and brigades be established.

The resolution on work safety and hygiene includes union demand and control of accident investigations and systematic inspections of the hygienic condition of bathrooms and lockers.

A resolution on affiliation and finances was also approved.

Veiga Speech

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 17 Sep 81 p 3

[Text] The obvious progress in the whole union movement has not been seen in the SNTM, according to Roberto Veiga Menendez, secretary general of the CTC and alternate member of the Political Bureau of the party, when he summarized the Fifth SNTM Congress.

Veiga added that the union has not functioned properly in the last few years and the work of its main leadership organizations has been unsatisfactory.

Veiga said: "In our opinion, the basic problem has been that the national union leadership has not stabilized the appropriate work methods to provide the results that the CTC and the party expected from this union organization."

Veiga recognized that the mass of workers can be admired and on innumerable occasions has given proof of its enthusiasm, its selflessness in work, its combativeness and its political, revolutionary and communist awareness.

"For that reason, it is not idealistic to hope that this union will become one of the best in the country and become the pride of the entire union movement."

Good National Committee Elected

Veiga stressed that this congress can be the dividing line between a stage of mistakes and problems, caused basically by the use of incorrect work methods, and a new stage characterized by unity. He added: "There must be group work on this task, a self-critical and critical spirit and a close tie between the top level of the union and the intermediate leadership organizations."

The congress has elected a good national committee, according to the secretary general of the CTC. From it has come the national secretariat announced today. The members of this secretariat are, in general, relatively young union leaders who have the necessary experience and who, through their distinguished work on the preparatory committee for the congress and in all union leadership work, have earned your confidence to assume the great responsibility of leading the organization during the next few years.

Veiga added that a metalworker who, as provincial union leader had acquired maturity and earned the affection and respect of all his followers, had been elected head of the union. He said: "We are referring to comrade Angel Villarreal."

Importance of Union Section, Bureau

Veiga explained that the obvious problems in the union these years explain why almost three-fourths of its leaders were changed during the preparatory process for the congress. Therefore, the majority of its cadres are new in the union responsibility that they hold.

He explained some indispensable principles for the internal life of the union in order to carry out the work of the cadre. These included knowing and consistently applying the guidelines that must govern the internal life of the organization. Referring to this, Veiga said: "In this union--much more than in any other--this is an urgent need whose observance must be a priority and constant concern of all its leaders."

Veiga said that the union section and the bureau are the direct, daily and principal means for the realization of our tasks among the workers. He added: "If each one of the committees of these base organizations does not meet periodically as set forth, complete passiveness, authoritarianism and nonconformity will reign. Confusion will be created to the point that many of the members will be isolated because they do not know what to do or do not feel responsible for the decisions made."

The union leader emphasized that the meetings of the leadership committees of these organizations serve to present the problems and the tasks to their members. He said that the meeting is a living school for ideas and awareness of indispensable leadership for our base cadres.

He added: "We would like to repeat that if this is important for all the unions, it is much more important for this one where the overwhelming majority of base leaders lack leadership experience." He emphasized: "To this inexperience, it is necessary to add that these new union leaders must act so that the members do not see them as economists or demagogues who refuse to call them to their duties and necessary sacrifices that our economy demands. They must not see them either as insensitive, passive and irresponsible, tolerating the ignorance of the rights of the workers."

Achieve Equilibrium Between Duties, Rights

Veiga covered the subject of duties and rights and the union position on these. He explained: "If there is a demand for an alleged right and the union leaders run to wave it in front of the administration without analyzing it or thinking about it as they should, those union leaders lose authority facing the workers and the administration itself."

He explained that the opposite case is union leaders who react negatively to any demand by the workers without studying it, stating that it is time to produce and work, not to make demands. He stressed: "Those who act this way, of course, lose all authority and give all the workers the idea that the union is worthless."

"The best union section is not only the one where all the members of the leadership committee work but the one where each one, in order to help his work, is capable of gathering around him a large group of members through his simple and concrete work content."

Improvement of Cadres Is Vital Task

In another part, he stated: "Improvement of our cadres, especially those at the base, is a vitally important task. Those who have some union experience say that an efficient way to orient, supervise and educate base union leaders was and is frequent plenary meetings with the leaders of the union bureaus and sections where each one reports on how he does the tasks and all discuss the guidelines together."

Expanding on this, Veiga added: "If they asked us what the union is, we would answer: The union is the assembly, the union is the plenary meeting, the union is criticism and self-criticism, the union is the challenge, the union is the masses in action, the union is emulation, the union is the mass of work. That is the union. Those are the things that correctly make us proud and inspire all of us who feel the honor and the privilege of putting into union work our concerns, our efforts, our aspirations and our most fervent desires as revolutionaries and as communists."

Unions Cannot Hide Behind Exclusive Criteria

He discussed the ties between the unions and the masses. He said that the unions cannot hide behind exclusive criteria or measure the readiness of only the vanguard. He stressed that to make these ties strong, we must be tied to all the masses in order to be able to correctly understand their state of mind, needs and aspirations.

"A good union leader is one who aspires to have the achievements of his union not only respond to the extraordinary effort of a large part of the workers but one who aspires to have the achievements of the unions respond to the efforts of all, one who, in addition to stimulating the efforts of the most conscientious workers, increases his work with those who show some indifference toward the tasks of the union."

Socialist Emulation

The alternate member of the Political Bureau covered socialist emulation and its organization and development in the union. He indicated that, in spite of the efforts made, it does not yet respond to aspirations and needs.

"Emulation has to be alive, generate enthusiasm and initiatives and promote the participation of all the workers. Emulation must be free of all red tape. All the work centers must sign collective and individual commitments so that all the workers know them and constantly fight, consciously and enthusiastically, to materialize them. It is very important that reviews of fulfillment of these commitments be free from anything mechanistic, promote discussion that arouses everyone's interest, help stimulate the fulfillers and accumulate the best experiences and initiatives."

Fight for Spare Parts

He analyzed the work of the innovators and the need for this union to promote participation in the fight for spare parts. He also discussed some problems in labor discipline and the fast turnover of young workers in the sector.

Concerning this last aspect, he stated: "It is the union's duty to analyze the causes for this situation and work systematically to overcome them. Everything

seems to indicate that the problems that affect labor discipline are expressed more strongly among the young workers." He asked: "Why do the youths want to remain in this branch?" He added that this is a question to which the union must find an answer.

Safety and hygiene was then discussed and he explained some existing problems with safety devices.

A good part of Veiga's speech was devoted to examining the fulfillment of work norms and some irregularities in that sense. He said: "There is usually a very particular situation based on individual characteristics; the norms are not national norms. Generally they are limited to activities done in certain jobs and establishments. This leads to the application among metalworkers of thousands of different norms corresponding to thousands of different operations."

"It seems to us that this reality imposes on the union the need to encourage an examination with the administration of the existing payment systems and to propose the introduction of piece-work payment as well as bonuses that promote and stimulate quality and use all the possibilities offered by the General Wage Reform."

Veiga spoke further about the need to encourage the battle for ninth grade which is not doing well in this union.

"Not to fulfill the enrollment plan at this stage will force you to make a supreme effort to incorporate all those enrolled into the classrooms, promote class attendance, advocate their continuation and, finally, guarantee their promotion," he said.

Finally the secretary general of the CTC referred to Fidel's brilliant speech:

"We end the congress still under the influence of the brilliant and energetic speech given by Fidel at the opening ceremony of the 68th Meeting of the Interparliamentary Conference." He added:

"The threats of our enemies can never deter us; on the contrary, they deepen our convictions."

"We must fight to include all the metalworkers in the country in the fulfillment of these tasks. We must fight to raise this union to the height of the example and the memory of our beloved and unforgettable comrade, Lazaro Pena."

7717
CSO: 3010/75

IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTI-DENGUE CAMPAIGN DESCRIBED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 11 Sep 81 pp 45-46

[Article by Frank Hechavarria: "The Fight Against the Aedes"]

[Text] Near the conclusion of the intensive phase of the campaign against the Aedes aegypti mosquito and aimed at eradication of dengue, it becomes necessary to look 2 or 3 months back in order to analyze whether the work has yielded positive fruit.

First of all, we observe that there is a real drop in the number of cases reported every day on a national basis, and in the past 2 weeks, supervisors and inspectors report little infestation of mosquitoes or deposits of larvae. This alone tells us that the work has been good and efficient, although logically speaking, a great deal remains to be done and the aid of everyone is necessary. We must all remember that this is a fight of the people and the Aedes must be eradicated, deprived of Cuban citizenship!

In order to have a clearer view of the volume of work done, let us see how focal and perifocal treatment was handled (Abate and Baytex [insecticides]) since the beginning of the campaign on 3 September: 2,417,430 sites or housing units have been visited.

At the same time, intradomiciliary fumigation using Malathion (automatic sprayers), in 10-day cycles, was a day behind in the first phase and instead of finishing on 12 August as planned, it was completed on 13 August. This delay continued into the second phase and it was during the third that the time lost was made up and the plan was completed, for a 300 percent rating by 3 September. It should be recalled that this type of spraying is only done in urban areas with over 100 inhabitants, meaning that in each cycle, 2,007,141 housing units and sites are treated.

By 30 August, the four phases of outside spraying had been completed (except in Havana City, with five phases) and 58,825 blocks had been covered. This type of spraying initially encountered serious problems due to the lack of equipment. Our country had to build its outside spraying equipment (LECOS) on its own and use agricultural planes to support the task. It was the Soviet aid with the mobile TDA spraying equipment that made it possible to give the final boost to the work and complete the program on time.

The enormous amount of work done in the intensive phase, joined with the continuing cleanup task done by our people, under the watchful eye of the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution], along with the UJC [Union of Young Communists], the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Workers] and ANAP [Association of Small Farmers], has made it possible to reduce the number of dengue cases greatly. We can see this if we compare how, from Monday, 8 June, when 458 cases were reported, the incidence gradually increased, reaching the peak of 11,721 cases by 6 July, the date when every Cuban was involved in the battle against dengue and the carrier: the Aedes aegypti.

Our people are witnesses to the true sacrifices and humane labor done, mainly by personnel in the pediatric and general hospitals, in an open fight against death, but the effort was not in vain, and from that peak date, the national index began to drop.

If we observe the picture province by province, we see that on 3 September, Holguin had the highest incidence, with .3 per 10,000 inhabitants. In absolute numbers, Las Tunas came next with 14 cases. In the municipalities, those with the most cases on that date were Victoria de las Tunas with .7; Manati and Benes with .6, all for every 10,000 inhabitants.

At the end of the week, the National Operations Group considered calling upon the territories still behind in certain tasks of the final period of the intensive phase, such as:

Spraying with Abate (focal): Isle of Youth; Sancti Spiritus and Las Tunas, have not completed their plans.

Perifocal treatment (Baytex): All provinces have completed their plans, with the exception of the special municipality of Isle of Youth.

Intradomiciliary treatment (automatic sprayers): To date, the fourth cycle has been completed throughout the nation.

Outside spraying (LECO and TDA): Santiago de Cuba, Villa Clara, Havana City and Camaguey were the most behind at the close of the fifth weekly cycle.

It should be pointed out that in the mobilizational cleanup tasks, as in the volunteer day on Sunday, the pickup of accumulated waste took a week, violating instructions. It is useless to mobilize the masses for such necessary and important work as cleanup if this is not done effectively. The objective of eradicating any place that might serve as a breeding ground for the Aedes aegypti mosquito must continue permanently.

In the over 2 months of the campaign, our people have been aware of the essential need to eliminate the dangerous carrier of dengue, yellow fever and other diseases once and for all, and we must not allow our guard to be lowered by the progress made. The fight continues and there are still enemies to be defeated!

SUGAR INDUSTRY SAVED MORE THAN 13 MILLION GALLONS OF OIL

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 24 Sep 81 p 1

[Article by Luis Hernandez Serrano]

[Text] Nevertheless, the National Sugar-Mill Workers Union (SNIA) is of the opinion that there are still great subjective and objective reserves by means of which more can be saved during the next milling seasons. The Third National Meeting of Sugar Mills That Consume the Most [Oil], at which conservation of wood and electricity will also be discussed, is to be held during the second half of November at the Bolivia Mill in Ciego de Avila.

The amount of oil saved by the sugar industry during the 1981 harvest season in comparison with that of 1980 came to 13,389 million gallons, according to information received by JUVENTUD REBELDE from the industry's national union.

The spokesman for the SNIA, Antonio Jorge Mendoza, explained that during the 1980 milling season all of our sugar mills, for both raw and refined sugar, consumed 59,724 million gallons, while during this past season they consumed 46,335 million.

"Notwithstanding this favorable situation, we still have enormous subjective and objective reserves to work to reduce our consumption of this precious fuel and also do so as concerns the firewood used and the electrical energy," Antonio Jorge asserted.

"And this is why," he added, "the union is getting ready for the Third National Meeting, which is to be held during the second half of November at the Bolivia Mill in Ciego de Avila, for the purpose of reducing as much as possible expenditures for these three resources."

The meeting will be held there because that mill is one of the about 25 mills throughout the country that consumed the largest amounts of oil during the previous harvest season and representatives of these high-consumption mills and also of some of those that have as yet barely scratched the surface of consumption of the precious fuel, as well as members from mills that for several years now have not wasted even a single gallon, will be participating in it.

It is, however, important to point out that in the specific case of the Bolivia Mill, despite the fact that it figures on the list of top consumers, this is due to technical problems and operational mishaps that are not attributable to its workers.

At the present time the MINAZ [Ministry of the Sugar Industry] is making a serious investment there designed to improve the mill's steam generation which, combined with the interests of its workers, technicians and managers, will no doubt result in a notable step forward in connection with this.

The MINAZ is making a similar effort at the remaining mills where fuel consumption is high and it is the task of the industry's union to see to it that consumption figures are constantly reduced, for those of firewood and electricity as well.

During the last harvest seasons the provinces of Cienfuegos, Villa Clara and Sancti Spiritus headed the list of the best mills in the country as regards fuel consumption.

The first meeting of this kind the SNTA organized was held in 1979 at the Nicaragua Mill in Holguin and the second was held in 1980 at the Espartaco Mill in Cienfuegos. At the next one emphasis will be laid on following the guidelines set by our commander-in-chief at the 16th Sugar-Industry Congress in October 1980.

11,466
CSO: 3010/73

SUGAR AGROINDUSTRIAL PLANTS TO BEGIN OPERATING

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 21 Sep 81 p 1

[Article by Luis Hernandez Serrano: "Another 13 Sugar Agroindustrial Plants Will Begin Operating in January"]

[Text] This will bring the number of plants in operation throughout the nation up to 17, since the first four went into operation during the last harvest season.

While supervising the first inspection of repairs made at the mills, Luis Martell Rosa, member of the party Central Committee and secretary general of the industry's union, announced that another 13 agroindustrial complexes will go into operation as of 1 January 1982.

He said that, during the already approaching milling season, 17 complexes of this kind will thus be operating throughout the country, since the nation's first four were put together and began operating in 1981. These were the Gregorio Arlee Manalich (La Habana), Panchito Gomez Toro (Villa Clara), Argentina (Camaguey) and Urbano Noris (Holguin) complexes.

"At the present time," Martell explained, "the conditions for organizing them are being created through a process of adjustment, studies and coordinated efforts so that, while working together, the cane and sugar-milling enterprises are not plagued with operational difficulties."

The 13 new complexes are distributed as follows, by provinces: 30 de Noviembre (Pinar del Rio), Camilo Cienfuegos (La Habana), Australia (Matanzas), Chiquitico Fabregat (Villa Clara) and Ramon Balboa (Cienfuegos).

And in addition: Uruguay (Sancti Spiritus), Patria (Ciego de Avila), Carlos Manuel de Cespedes (Camaguey), Antonio Guiteras (Las Tunas), Cristino Maranjo (Holguin), Roberto Ramirez (Granma), America Libre (Santiago de Cuba) and El Salvador (Guantanamo).

Of these complexes the America Libre of Santiago de Cuba is of particular historical interest, since our Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro was in this mill — formerly the America — on the night of 31 December 1958, the eve of the victory of the Cuban revolution, nearly 23 years ago.

A large number of agroindustrial workers notably weighted in favor of sugar production, as can, for example, be seen in the case of the Antonio Guiteras of Las Tunas, which has over 10,000 workers, will be concentrated in them.

"With the formation of these complexes an old dream of our sugar workers is being realized: the unification of the industry with cane growing in Jesus Menendez' beloved union," Martell said.

11,466
CSO: 3010/73

NEW GROUP OF MOTORIZED INSPECTORS CREATED TO CHECK TRAFFIC

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 5 Sep 81 p 1

[Article by R. Vallori]

[Text] At a press conference presided over by Vice Minister of Transportation Amador del Valle, Omelio Alonso, director of the State Transportation Inspection Department, announced that a Corps of Motorized Highway Inspectors would begin to operate in the different provinces of the country as of October.

The basic objectives in forming this group will be to achieve better utilization of freight capacity and to check on traffic safety.

The inspectors will be assistants to the PNR [National Revolutionary Police], subject to an agreement soon to be signed with that agency, and will have the authority to lift the registration and license plate of the vehicle, send the rig back to its base of operations, impose traffic fines and take violators to police stations if necessary.

Inspections will be made at fixed points along highways, in sweeps through towns and cities and at transport bases. Every freight-carrying motor transport of MITRANS [Ministry of Transportation] and other agencies, including those of the agencies of the People's Government and of individuals, could be inspected. MININT [Ministry of Interior] and FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] vehicles are excluded from these inspections.

This team of uniformed inspectors on motorcycles will begin to operate in November in the provinces of Las Tunas, Guantanamo, Holguin and Granma, and their number will be governed by the characteristics of each area.

At the present time a group of about 70 inspectors are completing their studies, in which they are being taught, among other subjects: traffic, feasibility, motor transport safety and operational standards and regulations. The members of this team have an approximate high school education.

Enterprise managers will be informed of the results of these inspections so that they can decide on those disciplinary measures they feel to be appropriate.

The constitution of this new work team is covered by Law 1323 governing the State Central Administration, which empowers MITRANS with the function of state control over transportation.

With motorized inspection better control will be achieved over the provisions and standards established by MITRANS, which must be observed by enterprises as well as motor vehicle operators. This operation will take into consideration routing, bill of lading, conveyance, loading of freight and crew discipline as well as mechanical defects of the vehicles.

11,466

CSO: 3010/73

BRIEFS

FRENCH CP YOUTH DELEGATION--This morning, Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member, Party Political Bureau, and member of the Central Committee Secretariat, received the delegation of the MJCF (Communist Youth Movement of France), headed by its Secretary-General Pierre Zarka who is also a member of the French Communist Party's Central Committee and a deputy in that country's National Assembly. The delegation, further made up of Gerald Souville and Ana Maria Amaibile, members of the MJCF executive committee, has been in Cuba since 6 September in response to an invitation from the Union of Young Communists. The interview was held in a friendly and brotherly climate and opinions were exchanged in the course of it regarding the work of the communist youth organizations of France and Cuba, the current international situation, and other topics of mutual interest. Also present during the meeting were Luis O. Dominguez, member, Party Central Committee, and first secretary of the UJC [Union of Young Communists]; Angel Fernandez and Javier Ardizones, section chiefs in the Party Central Committee; as well as Ramon Ajon, an official from the general department of foreign relations of the Central Committee, and Luis A. Castro, member of the UJC national bureau. [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE 10 Sep 81 p 1] 5058

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES--A total of 1,909 agricultural producer cooperatives have been established as of 31 August throughout the country; they cover 22,100 caballerias and include 35,782 members; this was announced in the course of the central report to the Tenth Plenum of the ANAP [National Association of Small Farmers] which is meeting in the headquarters of the peasant association in the capital. The meeting is chaired by Jose Ramirez Cruz and Julian Rizo Alvarez, alternate member, Political Bureau, and member, Central Committee Secretariat, respectively. This is the time for checking on the pledges for the prior plan, the work done during the first half, and the work accomplished so far, with a view to the Sixth Congress of the ANAP, to be held in May of next year. The upswing in the cooperative movement is also being analyzed, including the units in the mountains; this also covers the competition plan in honor of historical dates, the 17 May competition project, and the general outlines for the organization of the harvest in this sector. [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE 16 Sep 81 p 1] 5058

GDR MILITARY DELEGATION—A delegation from the People's Army of the German Democratic Republic, headed by Gen [General Oberst] Horst Stechbarth, minister for national defense and chief of the Ground Forces, arrived in our country yesterday, having accepted an invitation from Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the party and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR). The first vice ministers of the FAR, Division Generals Abelardo Salome and Senen Casas, the latter chief of the General Staff, Div Gen Sixto Batista, chief of the Central Political Directorate, all alternate members of the Politburo, and other FAR generals, chiefs and officers went to Jose Marti International Airport to welcome the visitors. The delegation is here on a visit of friendship and business and during its stay in Cuba will make a tour of military units and headquarters of economic, historical and cultural interest. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 20 Sep 81 p 4] 11466

CSO: 3010/71

SERAPHIN, DOUGLAS CONTEST DEMOCRATIC LABOR LEADERSHIP

Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 26 Sep 81 p 3

[Text] Douglas declared that he was now the new political leader of the Dem-Lab party.

Seraphin accused the Douglasses of having collected funds on behalf of the party and not turning them in to party headquarters.

A bitter fight between former confidants is about to be introduced on the political scene in Dominica.

In one corner stands Oliver Seraphin, Party Leader of the Democratic Labour Party; the challenger is Michael Douglas (Rep. - Portsmouth).

This week, Seraphin and Douglas issued statements declaring their positions.

Douglas declared that he was now the new Political Leader of the Dem-Lab party after he 'was elected unopposed at a duly constituted meeting of the Central Committee of the party.' The Douglas statement said that Rosie Douglas was elected General Secretary while Portsmouth Mayor Renwick Jean-Pierre and Julien Giraud were elected Trustees.

'The meeting condemned the shameful attempts by O. J. Seraphin and other discredited politicians to divide and confuse the labour movement. Seraphin's press statements coming 13 months after being rejected as Prime Minister and representative of Salisbury defeats political or moral logic and common sense. In particular, Seraphin's... decision to expel Rosie Douglas... was rejected as baseless, cowardly and unconstitutional,' continued the statement.

Douglas ended by accusing his former Prime Minister and party colleague of 'total in-evitute of... leadership and his puerile and mischievous attempts to selfishly divide the labour movement'.

Oliver Seraphin's salvo opened with a confirmation that Rosie had been ejected from the party. Said Seraphin:

'The ongoing consultation with the constituencies in preparation for the national convention demonstrated endorsement of the dismissal of Rosie Douglas.'

Seraphin accused the Douglasses of having collected funds on behalf of the party and not turning them in to party headquarters.

He ridiculed Douglas' Glanville meeting of a Central Committee as 'the unholy nervous haste in last Sunday's picnic of persons called up by the Douglas brothers... to avoid embarrassments in the matter of party funds, to give Rosie Douglas a mandate as General Secretary in order to solicit more funds... and to install Mike Douglas as a pretender to the leadership in order to facilitate the basis for a merger and takeover of Patrick John's party'.

'The history of Mike Douglas as leader of the defunct and non-starter Dominica Democratic Alliance and Rosie Douglas as leader of the so-called popular Independence Committee needs being recalled.'

'Mike was fired by P. J. pursued a hate campaign culminating in his being overthrown in May 1979 for which Mike claimed particular credit. Later Mike and Rosie former members of the Alliance were fired by that Organization. Four months

prior to the General Election in 1980 Mike then politically homeless sought and received membership in Dem-Lab, his brother after much debate finally received the NOD for Membership in Dem-Lab just two (2) months before the General Elections'.

'In characteristic parasitic fashion the Douglas Brothers have sought to take over Dem-Lab as Mike attempted with the Shoe Party in 1978 and the Alliance in 1980'.

'Clearly the unprincipled conduct of advertising a complete take over of O. J. Seraphin's brashchild - the Democratic Labour Party after being rescued by him from the dustbins of political oblivion without the fullest possible consensus of the Members of the Party is a despicable act that will surely confirm Mike and Rosie Douglas as political opportunists who will have to justify their conduct to the rank and file members and supporters of the Democratic Labour Party'.

'The conclusions of last Sunday's Meeting is of no effect and must be disregarded by the Public at large.'

'The Democratic Labour Party headed by O. J. Seraphin lives on and will hold an early delegates Convention to confirm the Party's Business without the 'negative' influence and presence of Douglas and Douglas,' the statement continued.

BRIEFS

PROTEST TO CUBA--The Dominica Government has accused Cuba of interfering in the internal affairs of the country. A message was despatched this week to the Cuban Embassy in Grenada, deplored the granting of scholarships in Cuba to Dominicans after the government had rejected the offer. The protest note called the Cuban interference an "unfriendly act" and reiterated the position of the Dominica government on the matter. [Text] [Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 26 Sep 81 p 2]

CURRENCY DEAL TAX--Roseau, Dominica, Tuesday, (CANA)--Hurricane-battered Dominica yesterday reimposed a levy of one percent on some foreign currency dealings to raise EC\$800 000 (EC\$1 - 37 cents US) in additional revenue. Under a bill passed in the House of Assembly yesterday, the tax would be charged on the gross value of all foreign exchange dealings or purchases involving more than \$100. Prime Minister Eugenia Charles, who tabled the measure, said government needed the money urgently to continue its developmental drive. However, Miss Charles promised to remove the tax first put into effect last August 1--as soon as government was satisfied that there had been an improvement in the country's revenue position. The five opposition parliamentarians present during the debate voted against the bill. One in fact accused government of introducing "cosmetic legislation" which he claimed would bring further economic woes to the country. The act stipulates that the tax will relate to the East Caribbean currency which is used in Dominica and other Eastern Caribbean states. According to the legislation it is an offence for anyone to fail to pay or account for tax imposed. Conviction would render such a person liable to a fine not exceeding \$2 500 or a jail term of not more than one year. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 16 Sep 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025/22

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO GROUPS FLAY U.S. DESIGNS ON GRENADE

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 26 Sep 81 p

[Text] In response to the nefarious role the Trinidad and Tobago media are playing, as willing accomplices of United States' imperialism's drive to discredit the Grenada Revolution, the people of Trinidad have formed a Committee Against US Aggression (CAUSA).

CAUSA has so far mounted pickets against the US Embassy in Port of Spain, to protest US plans to invade Grenada; and against the EXPRESS newspaper, to protest its propaganda onslaught, that tries to create grounds to justify overthrow of the PRG.

This was the second picket against the EXPRESS on Grenada's behalf.

Several political and cultural organisations participated in the pickets and the public's sympathetic response "suggests much working class support for the Grenadian Revolution, despite the propaganda barrage," said a CAUSA member.

Statements distributed at the pickets included those from the Council of Progressive Trade Unions (CPTU), the Workers' Revolutionary League (WRL) and Concerned Women for Progress (CWP).

"The US administration has opened up a campaign of lies and slanders aimed at destabilising the PRG and isolating Grenada from its natural allies, the people of the Caribbean," said the CPTU.

And, "despite its pious declarations on democratic liberties, press freedom, the virtues of free and fair elections, it is all too clear," CPTU said, that the TT media have "flagrantly denied the people here their right to be told the truth about the struggles" which the Grenadian people and the PRG are waging, "in their determination to transform the backward economic and political structures which they inherited from the neocolonial Gairy dictatorship."

The CPTU statement, signed by general secretary Michael Als, said the TT media have "invested a tremendous amount of energy and space to painting a picture of Grenada as seen through the US State Department and its regional supporters," noting that news of significance reforms in Grenada, of mass participation in production and defence, like news of US-backed atrocities against the people of Angola, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras go unreported.

And it asked, in whose interest do the TT media operate--that of "the minority of exploiters in Grenada who are no longer free to plunder the state coffers with impunity," or of the majority of Grenadians "who for the first time in their history are accorded their right to proper health care, education and work?"

The WRL said the Reagan administration is seeking to halt the decline of US capitalism "by whipping up a new and dangerous cold war," which involves "greater austerity measures against the working class at home, increased militarisation, military aid and arms agreements with the most reactionary governments, and foreign intervention against oppressed and struggling people of the Third World."

In the Caribbean, as part of its military offensive, WRL said, "US imperialism is giving support, military and otherwise, to its most faithful yardfowis, while attempting to prevent international solidarity and aid going to the struggling Caribbean people."

The CWP said that as an organisation "whose primary struggle is for the full equality and human dignity of women," it recognises that women in Grenada "have made more significant gains in two years of Revolution," than TT women have achieved "in 19 years of Independence."

And, it added, the present threat posed to Grenada's sovereignty "by US aggression--economic political and military--demands that Caribbean peoples take a firm and resolute stand against foreign, and especially US, interference in the region."

CWP also urged the public to examine the recent US military manoeuvres in the Caribbean "in the light of the implications of the US decisions to build the neutron bomb--a decision which constitutes another step in the escalation of the arms race promoted by the US, and which endangered world security and peace."

CSO: 3025/23

EEC GRANTS \$6 MILLION FOR WORK ON NEW AIRPORT

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 19 Sep 81 pp 1, 7

[Text] The European Economic Community (EEC) this week granted \$6 million to Grenada for the international airport, under the Lome II convention, an agreement between African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and member countries of the EEC.

Civil engineer and project manager, Ron Smith, said the sum, given for infrastructure development and equipment supply, will be used to purchase some of the navigational equipment needed for the control tower.

He believes the money was directed to the airport as a result of last April's EEC-sponsored co-financing conference in Brussels, which sought assistance for the project, from EEC member countries and international financial institutions.

In its bid to block funds for the airport, the United States attempted to wreck the conference. However, this crude attempt by imperialism, sparked loud protest, from local and international organizations, including the ACP grouping, who strongly condemned it in their solidarity statements.

Finance Minister Bernard Coard, who attended the conference, said it was highly successful and supportive of Grenada's case.

Hence, this latest aid is seen as a defeat for imperialism's intrigues.

According to a recent EEC statement, the PRG is preparing a proposal for expenditure of the grant, for early submission to the European Development Fund.

Minister of National Mobilization Selwyn Strachan, under whose former portfolio of Communications and Work, the airport project fell, said that, on behalf of Grenadian people, he is "grateful and happy" about the EEC's grant, which is of "tremendous assistance."

He said the PRG is pleased with this offer, and despite US pressure, EEC member countries have maintained their independence and refused to be bullied. "This is a victory for the Grenadian people over US imperialism," he said.

On the project itself, dredging of all unstable material from Hardy Bay has been completed, according to Bro. Smith. Back filling or the dumping in of

solid material into dredged area will begin in about two weeks." The large US dredge doing the job, is now docked in St. George's harbour, awaiting additional pipes for this next stage.

Meanwhile, under the EEC's 1981 Food Aid Programme, a shipment of 100 tons of powdered milk and 30 tons of butter oil is due to arrive soon. Another 300 tons of milk is expected.

Since the Revolution, Grenada has received a total of 800 tons of such milk, and the EEC disclosed that the PRG's request for further food aid in 1982, has already been submitted to its headquarters in Brussels.

One of Grenada's reliable sources of external aid, the EEC has helped in building community centres throughout the island, and is today jointly financing the Eastern Main Road project.

CSO: 3025/23

CUBA PROMISES ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR AIRPORT

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 26 Sep 81 p 3

[Text] At a time when the multi-billion-dollar budgets of nations such as the United States are diverted into warfare, Cuba, with all its own development problems, once again demonstrates that revolutionary commitment can produce the resources to help other struggling peoples.

The technical and economic cooperation agreement, which deals with 1982, covers health, housing, fisheries, education, road construction, agriculture and agro-industries, and the international airport.

Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard returned from Cuba this week, after concluding successful talks which extend and broaden Cuba's technical assistance to Grenada.

The renewal of the technical assistance agreement between the two countries is significant, he said, "because it not only pledges continuation of aid in the form of scholarships and providing the trained manpower to make massive projects like our new international airport a reality, but it also includes commitments to expand trade and aid us in developing the infrastructure required to improve the quality of direct production in all areas of our economy."

For example, Bro. Coard continued, "within the next year we will witness delivery of a prefabricated cement plant from Cuba with the capacity to construct the equivalent of 500 houses each year for our people.

"This new plant will allow us to train Grenadian workers in new methods of housing construction, increase the availability of low-cost, sturdy homes for our people, and construct many other types of buildings such as community centres, schools, and health facilities to improve the overall quality of life here in Grenada."

Similarly in trade, Bro. Coard noted, the new agreement calls for expansion of the number of consumer goods imported from Cuba. This was particularly important, he said, because "it will hold down the costs to consumers, who now pay inflated prices for the same goods produced in Europe and the US."

Commenting on the agreement's overall budgetary impact, Bro. Coard, who is also Minister of Finance, Trade and Planning, said: "This new agreement will save the Grenadian people millions of dollars. It will eliminate the need for us to spend money to send our youths away to school, it will provide new machinery and equipment directly, again saving us much-needed foreign exchange; and, most important, it will launch over 120 projects designed to fit into Grenada's long-term development plans."

CSO: 3025/23

EXPORT CROPS DOING POORLY, BRINGING IN FEWER DOLLARS

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 19 Sep 81 p 10

[Article by Vivian Philbert]

[Text] Affected by the world economic recession, diseases, and a recent freak storm, three of Grenada's major foreign exchange earners--banana, cocoa, and nutmeg--are losing millions of dollars.

Worse affected so far is the banana industry, which just over two weeks ago, suffered a battering from an unusual freak storm that left thousands of fallen banana trees, amounting to a loss of over \$1 million.

The industry is at present suffering from the destructive moko disease. A moko eradication campaign by the PRG and the Banana Society is currently taking place in a last bid to save the vital industry.

One affected plantation of over 116 acres had to be completely destroyed recently, to prevent the disease spreading to other fields.

Commenting on the industry's present state, chief technical officer in the Ministry of Agriculture, Dennis Noel, said it is surviving because an alternative to bananas has not yet been identified.

He explained that of the three main crops, banana is the only one that brings farmers a weekly income and it employs the most labourers. Moreover, he said, it serves as a shade for cocoa.

The PRG is borrowing money to pay farmers for their bananas which are being subsidised to the tune of four cents a pound, he said. It therefore means that production cost is more than what the buyers pay a pound.

A further drop in price is expected this November, aggravated by a 30 percent drop in the pound sterling which has fallen from more than \$6 (EC) to just over \$4.

Bro Noel said the Ministry is seeking assistance abroad for farmers but emphasised they should improve the quality of their fruits.

The PRG, he said, is aware of the bad roads which have severely hindered transportation and consequently production, but it is now undertaking a \$4 million feeder road project, together with the current Caribbean Development Bank loan for repairing feeder roads.

On the state of the industry, Lionel Alexis, a farmer of Preference, St. Andrew's and author of the book "Agricola," said Grenada's bananas are higher in quality than South American bananas, which the British housewives prefer.

Education is vital for farmers, he said, if they are to improve quality and fruit production.

Another farmer of La Alexis has 21 acres of land under nutmeg, cocoa, banana, and coconut production. He taught agriculture for a number of years and believes that youths must be stimulated to work the land. [as published]

Jim Lessey, a small farmer of La Digue with over 13 acres, most of which are in Mt. St. John, says the industry's future looks gloomy. "I lost over 100 trees in the storm and I am plagued with leaf spot, moko and nematodes diseases. I am going to give up bananas gradually and concentrate on cocoa and nutmegs."

Bro. Jim, who has been a farmer for over 40 years, advised other farmers that "we can't give up."

[Another farmer of La] Digue, Edwin Lessey, said he lost about 400 trees in the storm. However his enthusiasm has not dampened for he has already begun to rehabilitate his field.

The Bellevue state farm was also hit by the storm. Farm supervisor Glenus Joseph said more than 100 banana and 50 plantain trees were lost. He is, however, optimistic about the industry's future and has started to rehabilitate the fields. "Farmers must improve the quality of their fruits if they want to ensure better prices," he said.

Nutmegs, another major foreign exchange earner, is going through a difficult period. Some seven million pounds are stockpiled in pools all over the island awaiting shipment. Shipments for the spice have been coming occasionally but in small and insignificant proportions.

According to a small farmer nutmegs bore "like peas" this year.

Said Gregory Charles, manager of the Grenville pool: "We just don't know where to stock. We are thinking of renting a building for stocking. This year has been a bumper crop."

He said the industry was seriously affected by the world economic recession and pointed out that every industry goes through peaks and troughs. He is optimistic about its future though, predicting recovery by early next year.

CSO: 3025/23

ESTATE FARM WORKERS CONTINUE STRIKE, CRITICIZE OWNERS

St Georges FREE WEST INDIAN in English 26 Sep 81 pp 1, 4

[Article by Vivian Philbert]

[Text] As the strike by agricultural workers of the Bagatelle and Lesterre estates in St. Andrew's reached its fifth day yesterday, workers at Bagatelle refused management's offer of pay for public holidays, on the grounds that their demand was for full pay for the days they were on strike too.

On the other hand, however, workers at Lesterre have accepted the offer but have not yet returned to work. Dissatisfied with the offer by the estates' owner L. L. Ramdhanny, and by the Lesterre workers' acceptance, the Agricultural and General Workers Union (AGWU) to which the workers belong has called two meetings with them for Monday to decide on further action.

According to an AGWU spokesman, the union gave management a week to pay the money, about \$3,000, retroactive from January 1, this year. But despite getting a further week of grace, management bluntly refused to pay the workers, who were then advised to strike by AGWU.

Before yielding to part of the workers' demand, Ramdhanny was basing his refusal to pay for public holidays on the grounds that the workers do not work on those days. It is reported that he was jeered at while trying to pacify workers on the issue.

AGWU officials say that Ramdhanny has given orders to shoot on spot any workers who trespass his estates and had ordered more cartridges for his watchmen. In addition he threatened to get policemen to guard his estate.

Ramdhanny has a notorious record with workers. They complain of late hours of work, drop in wages for pension-qualifying workers, and poor worker-management relation because of management's attitude towards the workers.

Said Edwin Lewis, a worker of the Lesterre estate. "This is my last year with Ramdhanny. The man's not treating workers good at all."

Another worker Daphnie Beggs, said one or two of the workers are "crooks." "But I playing mas' and I 'ent fraid powder. We're not being treated good at all. Lesterre workers getting better treatment than Bagatelle workers."

Both Bro. Lewis and Sis Beggs think that workers should also stand up for a share in the estates' profits said Sis Beggs: "It is we who are making the profits, not Ramdhanny." However, she also pointed out that all workers should give an honest day's work for an honest day's pay.

Other workers complained that they have to fight for insurance money when they get injured and that they do not get paid while on sick leave.

The Ramdhanny estates have also strongly opposed the grant of maternity pay, especially for unmarried workers following PRG legislation making it compulsory.

Agricultural workers of the La Pastora estate in St. David's, owned by Raymond Rush, went back to work after a one-day strike, after which their demands were met.

In a meeting with Bagatelle workers last Thursday AGWU president Fitzroy Bain said the workers' historic actions showed their consciousness; they now realize that they have a right to enjoy the same benefits as the estate owners.

"Without the workers there can be no profit for the owners. It is you who produce the wealth," he said.

Pointing out that Ramdhanny's actions is a violation of industrial relations, he said AGWU is going to stand up with workers until their demands are met.

CSO: 3025/23

TRADE UNION CONGRESS HOLDS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

President's Address

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 26 Sep 81 p 20

[Text] The Guyana Trades Union Congress (TUC), moving into the third day of its four-day 28th Annual Delegates' Conference today, has pledged to continue dialogue, and not confrontation, with the Guyana Government on ways and means of improving the lot of workers.

The assurance was given by President Samuel Walker Thursday night, when he presented his first presidential address at the opening session of the conference.

Speaking to a capacity audience at the Pollydore auditorium, including delegates, government ministers, members of the diplomatic corps and special invitees, Cde Walker said the TUC feels consultation is a very effective tool.

He declared that the Guyana Trades Union Congress had accepted the challenge to work along with the government by way of continuous meetings and other forms of discussions to further the interests of workers and of the country as a whole.

The TUC, he said, will continue dialogue with public corporations and other state agencies to work out effective mechanisms for increases in the take-home pay of workers, and to accelerate the introduction and development of the concept of workers' participation in management.

Disagreements between government and the TUC on government-proposed guidelines for production incentive schemes are also to be resolved through discussions, Cde Walker said.

He also committed the TUC to government's thrust for increased production and productivity, necessary to improving living standards and providing better conditions of work for the masses.

The TUC conference opened with live and recorded messages of greetings from trade union organisations in 14 countries, including the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, West Germany, the People's Republic of China, Suriname, Yugoslavia, Cuba and several other Caribbean states.

The opening session was also coloured with the presentation of gifts and the announcement of citations to several veteran trade unionists.

The TUC President, chairman at Thursday night's proceedings, said current international pressures and the state of the national economy pose a challenge to affiliates of the organisation "to be concerned and to strive to play their part for improvements."

He also referred to Venezuela's threat to 70 percent of Guyana's territory, and he urged trade unionists to be conscious of the implications of that threat.

On the functions of trade unions, Cde Walker said they have a right to defend workers they represent for all or any just cause.

In closing, he called on all Guyanese to pay away their differences and to help pull Guyana out of its present adverse economic state.

The theme of the conference is "Towards Trade Union and Working Class Unity for Development."

Condemnation of U.S.

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 28 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] The Guyana Trades Union Congress [TUC] has called for a halt to plans by the United States to produce and deploy the neutron bomb.

The TUC, in a motion unanimously passed on the final day of its 28th annual Delegates Conference yesterday, strongly condemned the US Government for its decision to go ahead with production of the Neutron bomb.

The motion was tabled by the Guyana Agricultural and General Workers' Union (GAWU).

This year's conference, described by the TUC leadership as an historic occasion, was attended by delegates from trade union organisations in the United States, Britain, West Germany, and Cuba, and from the Caribbean Congress of Labour.

In its motion dealing with the neutron bomb, the TUC said the decision of the Reagan Administration to begin production of the bomb and to deploy it in North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) member-countries, constituted a sharpening of international tension and an acceleration of the arms race.

The move "will enhance the danger of military confrontation. It constitutes a threat to world peace and will have disastrous, economic and social consequences for all people," the TUC observed. The motion called on the other hand, for greater efforts towards peace and detente, and for the reutilisation of funds earmarked for military arsenal to aid the exploited and oppressed nations and peoples in the world. The TUC also passed a motion demanding an end to the arms race, which it said was a threat "to the common destiny of all peoples."

BRIEFS

CANEFIELD STRIKES, ARSON--Guysuco's estates last week produced 9,315 tons of sugar, the highest weekly production to date as there was a marked improvement in the weather. But the maximisation of production was affected in other areas. A total of 9,315 tons was produced out of an estimate of 10,760 or 86.6 per cent of the estimate. This brings the second crop total to 83,975 tons of sugar, an achievement of 82.6 percent of the target of 101,645 tons. For the year, the Industry has made 193,695 tons of sugar. Uitvlugt estate for the third straight week made its target, producing 900 tons which is a 100 per cent achievement and once again goes on the Honours Roll. Honourable mention goes to Albion Estate which produced 1,775 tons, 25 tons short of its target, or 98.6 per cent; Rose Hall estate produced 90.1 per cent of its target when making 1,175 tons of sugar out of an estimate of 1,300 tons. Enmore made 1,005 tons out of 1,090 or 92.2 per cent; and Wales produced 1,045 tons of sugar out of an estimate of 1,150 tons a 90.9 per cent of its target. Creditable performance was achieved by Blairstown when making 890 tons of sugar or 89.5 per cent of its estimate of 990 tons of sugar. While there was an improvement in the weather in juice quality, work stoppages once again affected production, particularly at Albion which could have achieved its estimate. At the same time, arsonists were at work at Uitvlugt, Diamond, LBI, Houston and Leonora, burning approximately 310 acres of canes, and this is affecting reaping patterns. [Text] [Georgetown SUNDAY CHRONICLE in English 27 Sep 81 p 48] Georgetown, Guyana Tuesday (CANA)--More than 678 acres of canes have been burnt by arsonists in the state-owned sugar industry, resulting in 'substantial and adverse effects on the level of production' this year. This was stated by chairman of the Guyana Sugar Corporation (GUYSUCO), Harold Davis at a ceremony for the signing of an annual production incentive agreement. Davis told the representatives of the three unions operating in the industry that it was distressing that the acts of arson continued without a word of condemnation except from one union. The GUYSUCO chairman noted that there was a high incidence of strikes and two weeks ago 129 hours were lost as a result of industrial action. [Excerpts] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 16 Sep 81 p 3]

CSO: 3025/27

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS SEAGA DECISION ON RELATIONS WITH CUBA

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 24 Sep 81 p 8

[Editorial: "Relations With Cuba"]

[Text] The Prime Minister, Mr Seaga, has announced recently that he will not upgrade diplomatic relations with Cuba at the moment. This means that there will be no exchange of ambassadors as was the case in the previous government and that the diplomatic mission in each country will be headed by a Charge d'Affaires. This should cause no surprise to Cuba or any one else since it is understandable and necessary.

It is understandable since the present government which in opposition took strong exception to the behaviour of Mr Ulises Estrada, the then Cuban ambassador, and which as one of its first acts as the new government sent him packing, could hardly so soon, want to exchange ambassadors. For it was not that Mr Estrada as head of the Cuban mission here was declared persona non grata for some isolated act on his part which was offensive to the people of the country. It was rather that his sustained attitude of near contempt for everyone, except those in the government of the Peoples National Party, and some of his actions which amounted to an interference in the affairs of the country, must have had the approval of his government.

The decision is necessary since it will indicate to the government of Cuba that the Jamaica government is aware that the outlandish behaviour of the former ambassador was no mere personal eccentricity but derived from the official policy of a government that did not understand the democratic spirit of this country.

The fact that the complaisance of the previous government contributed largely to Mr Estrada's appalling behaviour while he was here, is no more relevant in this context than the fact that Cuba signalled its willingness to upgrade its relations with Jamaica while the Leader of the Opposition was in Cuba.

The present government has given every indication that it accepts pluralism in the region. Indeed it was this government which resisted all pressures to break off relations with Cuba as a condition of its membership in the Organisation of American States in 1969. So the decision is not just a sterile act of anti-communism. It is more the imposition of a period of penitence justified

by the improprieties committed by the former Ambassador and Cuba's deteriorating relations with most of the countries in the region.

Nonetheless there have been talks on trade relations with Cuba and just last week a line of credit extended to the Bank of Jamaica by the Banco Nacional de Cuba in July 1980 was renewed by mutual agreement. While all is not as cosy as it was before normal civilities remain intact.

CSO: 3025/24

SURVEY OF ECONOMIC INDICATORS SHOWS DECLINE HAS HALTED

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 23 Sep 81 p 1

[Text]

The main indicators of economic performance show that the decline in the economy, which persisted up to the end of 1980, has now been halted and the basis has been established for substantially improved economic performance, according to the first half-yearly Economic and Social Survey of Jamaica to be published by the Government.

The survey which covers the period January to June 1981, was tabled in the House of Representative yesterday. It is the first time such a survey had been issued during the year under review.

In the preface to the survey, the Chief Technical Director of the National Planning Agency Dr. Headley Brown, pointed out that the Economic and Social Survey, which provides an evaluation of economic performance in Jamaica during each calendar year and records achievements or otherwise in the country's social life, is usually published at the time of the presentation of the annual budget.

HE SAID THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST issue of the survey during the year under review and that beginning with this edition, the survey would be published twice annually.

Dr. Brown said: "This innovation is part of the effort to facilitate economic development inasmuch as it assists planning and monitoring at all levels, by providing and analysing current data, and hopefully, facilitates structured discussion on the economy."

The survey said that the main indicators of the economic performance show that the decline in the economy which persisted up to the end of 1980 has now been halted and the basis has been established for substantially improved economic performance.

INDICATORS

The indicators listed by the Survey were: Gross Domestic Product (constant prices); Per Capita G.D.P.; the rate of inflation; the level of employment; and, investment activity.

The survey said that an increase of approximately one per cent in Gross Domestic Product (in constant price terms) is projected for 1981. This compares very favourably with the decline of 5.4 per cent during 1980 and an overall decline of 18.3 per cent during the period 1973-1980.

Gross Domestic Product per capita (constant prices) is projected at approximately \$852 in 1981 — a marginal increase over the 1980 level. There was a 6.5% decline in 1980. There was a marked deceleration in the rate of increase of the general price level, the survey said, as indicated by movement in the consumer price index.

THE INDEX SHOWED an increase

of 0.6% during the first six months of 1981, compared with an increase of 12.4% during the corresponding period of 1980. This represents a reversal of the trend sustained and severely high rates of inflation which has been a characteristic feature of the economy since the early 1970s.

JOB SITUATION

There were 39,900 more persons in jobs in April 1981 than in April 1980, the survey said. In addition, the rate of unemployment declined from 27.9% in April 1980 to 26.2% in April 1981 or from 26.8% in November 1980 to 26.2% in April 1981.

There has also been a marked improvement in the local investment climate, the Survey said. This is evidenced by the fact that 352 proposals related to new investment and involving a total capital outlay of approximately \$1.1 billion were presented to Jamaica National Investment Promotions Limited up to July 1981.

The survey said that a positive GDP growth is projected, notwithstanding current indications that the mining sector which had a GDP growth rate of 10.9% in 1980 has a projected decline of one per cent in 1981.

The main contributors to the growth in GDP (constant prices) in 1981 will be agriculture (mainly domestic agriculture and livestock), manufacturing, construction and installation, other services and electricity and water, the Survey said.

SPAULDING: TERRORISTS MAKING CONCERTED DISRUPTION EFFORT

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 24 Sep 81 pp 1, 14

[Text] The Minister of National Security and Justice, the Hon. Winston Spaulding told Parliament yesterday that despite the significant gains made by the security forces in the fight against crime and terrorism, there was a hard core of dedicated terrorists led by highly educated but evil men determined to frustrate the efforts of the Government.

Mr Spaulding said that there was a large volume of information which indicates a concerted effort to disrupt the plans of the Government regarding economic recovery and national security.

"What I have read about the type of documents recovered, the training, the nature of the methods being used, will convince people inside this Parliament and outside of this Parliament that this is not a situation in respect of which we can be complacent...it is going to require the national will of the patriotic, law-abiding people of Jamaica to come to grips with this menace once and for all."

Mr Spaulding was making his presentation in the second sectoral debate on Government action and policies which started in the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

The Minister said: "I would like to assure the country that my ministry and the security forces are fully aware of many of the plans of these disruptive elements in the society. Steps have been taken and will continue to be taken to equip the security forces to identify and deal effectively with these problems."

"This government was given a mandate to restore the society to a position where all law-abiding citizens will feel free to pursue their legitimate endeavours. I make an earnest appeal to all law-abiding citizens to cooperate with the security forces in providing information on criminal and terrorist activities in their communities," he said.

Mr Spaulding said that the Government was dealing with what could be called a "crime school and a crime factory" which has ideological and political motivations, which created a problem which in the richest countries with more highly developed security operations created grave problems.

He said that copies of certain disturbing articles which appeared inflammatory and inciting and to promote criminal disorder had been sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions. He said that articles were the written counterpart of destructive planning and action in the society.

One of the articles appeared in a newspaper published by a communist organization the Revolutionary Marxist League-giving the name and number of a policeman whom it accused of murder and went on to call for the arming of communities and the using of roadblocks to obstruct police activities.

Insanity

"What I wish to know is what kind of society are we that when publications like these are distributed in the society the same person who wishes protection for his home, the same person who wishes protection for his life and that of his family, the same person who wishes protection against rape, the same person who wishes safety and security in anyway is indifferent about this kind of political extremist activity in the society which apart from the conventional criminal activity we have in the society, has the effect of having a deliberate systematic build-up to promote criminal, terrorist and guerrilla disorder in the country.

The Minister said that the problem was coming from the time of "alliance of insanity" in the country, between the P.N.P. and the W.P.J. which is where the security problem which he had inherited began.

"I have documents here which at the appropriate time will explain why Winston Spaulding has been silent." He said that for over a period of time, the security have been finding communist and left-wing forces all around trained as insurgents, or terrorists or guerrillas: "I want the country to understand, because I state here before this Parliament, before my government and before this nation, that I am not going to take basket to carry water and people might understand what it is we are fighting."

For some time now the security forces have been finding equipment like detonators, fuses, guns, cartridges, manuals with Soviet literature, manuals on urban guerrilla warfare.

"If I am going to be charged with the very serious and difficult, awesome and serious responsibility of dealing with national security in this context, people had better listen and understand why this administration is saying that we have inherited a legacy and a burden which is unprecedented in the history of modern Jamaica."

Mr Spaulding said that the country must decide whether it wanted to continue playing "cat and mouse" games with the situation or whether it was going to seek to redress the situation. He warned that the Government would not accept any areas as the "fiefdom" of gunmen. People were sprung from the prisons to take part in criminal and terrorist activities, but the security forces were aware of this and enquiries were being made. He warned gunmen that attacks on the security forces with M16 rifles would trigger severe retaliation. "If they bring the M16 they are going to get lick," the Minister said.

VALUE OF EXPORTS, FOREIGN EXCHANGE INFLOW INCREASE

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 25 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] Traditional and nontraditional exports increased in value by J\$55 million during the eight months January to August this year over the same period last year.

During this eight-month period, foreign exchange inflows increased by \$214 million. At the same time, however, imports have risen by J\$219 million for the same period, over last year.

These were the high points of an address by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade, Hugh Shearer, delivered to the annual Staff Appreciation Awards Function of the Bank of Jamaica, in the Bank's auditorium yesterday afternoon.

Mr Shearer who gave these figures in describing the bank's functions as a compiler of trade and financial statistics, said that not only did recent statistics prepared by the Bank show these latest trends in export and import activities, they also indicated developments in local financial affairs.

"Commercial bank loans to the private sector which stood at a total of \$869.5 million in December 1980 increased to \$1,012 million in June 1981. The Cost of Living Index showed increase of 5.4 points January to August this year as against 21-1/2 points for the same period last year. Most of the \$100 million trade credit which had dried up during 1979-80 period have been restored. These are some of the positive indicators that the economic down-turn has halted and we are ready to move upwards."

"Special Interest

He repeated that the arrears of foreign debts had been reduced from US\$75.53 million in December 1980 to US\$49.5 million in September 1981.

In addition to all this, said Mr Shearer, it must be of special interest to the staff of the Bank, as to the whole country, that the jobs of 10,000 workers in the public sector had been preserved: and that, instead of a wage freeze, provision had been made for an amount for wage increase for employees in the Public Sector in each of the three years of the economic recovery programme.

Mr Shearer said that in the settlement of wages and salaries in the public sector just negotiated, it had been provided that unskilled workers in Central and Local Government will be earning \$5,044 per annum basic wage as from 1st April next year; that vacation had increased by 40 percent, by counting seven days entitlement as seven working days instead of calendar days previously, which included Saturday and Sunday and meant only five working days.

The Deputy Prime Minister, who earlier paid tribute to the bank for the efforts it had made and projects undertaken to assist members of the community in sports and community activities, said that appreciation was also due to the Bank's staff for its work in keeping accurate account of the nation's vital financial activities.

There was need for more sectors of the economy to pay attention and to make use of the publications of the Bank of Jamaica and the Department of Statistics about the country's business--its revenue, expenditure, cost of living, population distribution, production, exports, wage levels, etcetera. "Not only do they furnish relevant statistics, but they provide the basis for analysing and determining important trends in the national economy."

Were it possible, said the Deputy Prime Minister, there should be a special award to the Bank for its performance in keeping Jamaica afloat "in the very difficult years before 1980."

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EDITORIAL CHARGES PUBLIC UTILITIES IN STATE OF CHAOS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 22 Sep 81 p 6

[Editorial: "Utilities in Chaos"]

[Text] The continuing perilous financial state of Jamaica's public utility companies--the Jamaica Public Service Company (JPSCo), the Jamaica Omnibus Company (JOS), the Jamaica Telephone Company and the National airline, Air Jamaica--is like a plague on the country. The standard of service being provided by these companies is a source of monumental frustration to consumers and the travelling public and, according to the Minister of Public Utilities and Transport, Mr Ross, there appears to be no semblance of ease in the problems which have afflicted the companies.

The problems listed by Mr Ross range from managerial and administrative, escalating cost of capital equipment and energy to the endless industrial unrest which has characterised the utility services, in particular. In the case of the JPSCo., the island's only electricity service appears to have become more and more unreliable while operational costs have increased, resulting in the accumulation of major losses. To consumers, the situation has been aggravated by an iniquitous method of computing energy charge which results in higher bills to households even where energy conservation has been actively pursued. The proposal for a shift to diesel units offers no relief until 1984.

Of the group of utility companies the transport services are undoubtedly the worst. The JOS, in its unmitigated state of decline, is a serious blot on a service which before its transformation to a publicly owned company had been providing a reasonably good service in the capital city. Of the company's fleet of buses less than half are roadworthy, consequently commuters have been deprived of a service on which the overwhelming majority of ordinary citizens depend. The presence of some 470 unlicensed mini-buses on the streets of the Corporate Area is an untenable situation, but is a direct upshot of the unsatisfactory service being performed by the JOS. Not only must the Government move swiftly to correct the now chaotic situation on the Corporate Area streets, partly the result of the numerous unlicensed mini-buses on the road, but a sense of order must also be injected into the operation of the licensed mini-buses.

Commenting on the problems of the national airline, Air Jamaica, whose liabilities exceed \$64 million, not to mention its long-term debts, Mr Ross attributed these largely to an aging fleet of aircraft, unprofitable routes and poor management. Overextending itself, the airline has obviously felt the effects of international competition on certain routes from which it has been forced to withdraw.

A rehabilitation of these public companies to efficiency levels to allow them to provide the monopolistic service, and cope with the increasing demands, will require substantial capital injection. Expensive though are the prospects this is a course which Government cannot avoid. The capital cannot be obtained by pricing at this stage for where prices are increased consumers should be entitled to a corresponding improvement in the quality of the service. The country knows that it does not follow. What seems certain is that while there is the need to rid the fiscal budget of the burden of financing the public utility companies this ideal appears nowhere in sight, at least in the short to medium term. This is the dilemma. The inefficiency of the services poses a serious threat to economic stability.

CSO: 3025/24

EXCERPTS FROM LABOR PARTY MEETING EXPOSE VIOLENT INTENT

Basseterre THE DEMOCRAT in English 26 Sep 81 p 10

[Text] The Opposition Labour Party held a public meeting at George Street, Newtown, last Sunday, September 20.

Since the recent exposure by the Honourable Michael O. Powell, concerning the Labour's fishy relationship with an American gunman imported into the State as a "tourist," it is more important than ever for the public at large to follow the trend of Labour's public utterances dealing with the planned use of violence by themselves.

When a fish stinks, it starts from the head, and so with Labour's stench of destructive intentions, Opposition Leader Lee Moore first voiced a threat to "destroy Dr Simmonds utterly and completely" last year February. His subsequent denials ("It is not so I meant it") have totally failed to convince anyone.

Now again, just weeks after seeking to deny their pledges of violence in a "declaration" signed by the whole gang of them, including Stogumber, here are some excerpts from this meeting:

Browne

Simmonds had better not misunderstand our patience to be anything but patience for we have resolved to kill--let me say it again, we in Labour--we in the Leadership of Labour have resolved to kill to live and we shall take whatever defensive measures are necessary for the protecting of our own person and property--let it be understood.

Moore

Simmonds' end is near--Don't take it light, it is no joke--it is no political joke when I say that Simmonds' end is near--his end is near and it is very near and Simmonds had better know it. The writings are on the wall already Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin (See Daniel Chapter 5 Verses 25 & 30).

Moore Covering for Browne

We are not proposing to start ourselves any violence in this country but what Comrade/Browne was saying is this--it is not intelligent for any human being to stand while another human being destroys him and we are therefore not proposing to allow anybody to destroy us while we stand with our hands to our side--So what we are talking about are measures to defend and protect ourselves, our families, our property and our organisation.

EDITORIAL EYES OPPOSITION UNITY AGAINST LABOR PARTY

Kingston THE VINCENTIAN in English 4 Sep 81 p 4

[Editorial: "Seeking Opposition Unity"]

[Text] At its recent Congress the United People's Movement decided that there are two paramount considerations which must be placed over and above all other matters in respect of St Vincent and the Grenadines. The two are Preservation of Democracy and economic Survival.

The Political Leader of the UPM, Ralph Gonsalves, told THE VINCENTIAN that these matters are so urgent that his party felt that the "principled" elements in the opposition groups should open dialogue with each other. He declared unreservedly however that there are certain people with whom he personally would never be prepared to consort, even to overthrow the Labour Party.

THE VINCENTIAN approached the leader of the National Democratic Party, James "Son" Mitchell, for his views. He also feels the need for detente among opposition parties in the common cause of the good of St Vincent and the Grenadines. But he also made it clear that as far as he is concerned those people who had betrayed the NDP could have no part in any detente in which he was involved. He noted that in any case his Party would have to be consulted and agree to any sort of unified approach. He would not take action on his own.

The decision for the UPM to play down ideological differences [as published] in the interest of a united effort for the good of the country already has party approval since the matter was the subject of a Congress resolution.

Mitchell agreed with THE VINCENTIAN that the appropriate attitude for local politicians to take was support of the right and condemnation of the wrong, regardless of the superpower from which the action came. He described himself as "a member of the radical centre." He feels that West Indians including Vincentians, have demonstrated their dislike of communism, at the polls in no uncertain terms. Mitchell expresses distaste at some of the things currently going on in Grenada and ascribed them in part to Maurice Bishop's political inexperience. However with Reagan at the head of affairs in the U.S. he does not regard the invasion threat reported by Bishop as beyond the realm of possibility. We ourselves are extremely doubtful if even Reagan's fascist tendencies would stretch to the invasion of a minute island in the Caribbean.

The repercussions on the international front would certainly be gigantic! If Reagan wants to make a physical attack on communism in the Caribbean, why not Cuba? We have however to admit that in a previous difference of opinion over Grenada (when THE VINCENTIAN came out so strongly in support of Bishop at the time of the coup) Mitchell was right.

We believe that international politics is the issue on which unity between UPM and NDP would flounder.

In our opinion it is high time that the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines were offered a viable alternative to the St. Vincent Labour Party at the polls. Such a party would have to accept the definition of freedom as understood by Vincentians. In the last two general elections a lot of people have stayed away from the polls. The logical explanation would seem to be that in their view the Labour Party no longer measures up to expectations, and there was no acceptable alternative. Further we are convinced that whatever party is in power a strong opposition is needed to keep it on its toes.

There is something else. The word "principled" must be interpreted according to fact not according to politics. Let us offer a few examples from our thinking on the matter. Britain acts in an unprincipled way when racial connotations are allowed to infringe on the rights of its citizens.

The United States acts in an unprincipled way when it fails to condemn unreservedly the entry of South African troops in Angola.

Cuba acts in an unprincipled way when it attempts to masquerade as a nonaligned nation.

Bishop is unprincipled when he reneges on his promise to Grenadians and the world that free and fair elections would be an early priority for his Revolutionary Government, and that the freedom of press will be preserved.

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NEW PARTY EXPOUNDS ON ITS GUIDING PRINCIPLES, RATIONALE

Kingstown THE VINCENTIAN in English 11 Sep 81 p 1

[Text] A new party has been formed in St. Vincent and the Grenadines: "Progressive Democratic Party."

The executive body includes Dr Gideon Cordice, Hon. R.B. Russell, Hon. G.C.H. Thomas and Calvert Samuel (General Secretary).

THE VINCENTIAN had an interview with the executive and heard the reason for the formation of the new party. The founders feel that the nation cannot afford to tolerate the St. Vincent Labour Party in the 1980's. There seems to be a lack of control in all its public affairs and there are indications that its leadership is not able to discipline its members of Cabinet.

According to the views expressed to THE VINCENTIAN, in St Vincent, there is a lamentable lack of perspective in the political leadership. Unimportant issues are exalted to the position of issues and very important issues are lost sight of or neglected. People are not motivated. The emphasis of the Labour Party is on money and taxation and not on people and development. The Labour Party is an "Inhuman Government" a spokesman claimed.

The nation said the executive body is calling for an alternative to the Labour Party, but not a communist alternative that has ties with Cuba, and Russia like the U.P.M. What is needed is an alternative that is for democracy--not merely in words, as claimed by the present government, but one whose principles are based on democratic principles. "This alternative is the Progressive Democratic Party!" The absence of this alternative ties the people's hands, restricts their choice and tends to keep the island in backwardness and stagnation.

In the past said the executive, especially between the years 1967-72 Vincentians saw a vibrant Labour Party that was concerned with the problems and perplexities of the country. Since then there has been disturbing evidence that the same party though in power has lost the support, interest and concern of the people.

The P.D.P. it is claimed is a party that understands the needs of Vincentians and one that is competent to deal with the many problems facing the youths in particular.

The formation of this party, the executive explained, has gained the support of the people of this state. This they said has been proven in tours to the Windward and Leeward sides of the island by the reaction of residents who showed undoubted support. At the moment the party's committee is at work preparing their constitution which will be distributed to the people at a later date.

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COUNTRY SECTION

ST VINCENT

BRIEFS

ADVANCES IN AGRICULTURE--Kingstown, St. Vincent, Monday (CANA)--Agriculture Minister Vincent Beache says that farming here has made tremendous strides since the ravages of Hurricane Allen last year. Mr Beache who also holds the trade portfolio said that of all the sectors, banana production has made the most dramatic recovery. "This seems to be a common trend in the Windward Islands," he said. He lauded the efforts of farmers whom he said, contributed greatly to the resuscitation of the various agricultural sectors. The Agriculture Minister said that St. Vincent was now working with the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) to solve a serious pest problem affecting the island's carrot production. Research work is being carried out on onion and garlic production and the growing of ginger for canning. Besides expansion in acreage under sugar cane and arrowroot, Mr Beache said there was "a new thrust in beef production." "This is one area that we have been pushing very hard because our cattle production has decreased considerably especially since the (1979) volcanic eruptions where farmers sold out their breeding stocks and there was also a lot of theft," the minister said. "It takes a long time for cattle to develop, so right now we are short of beef," he added. Mr Beache said that as a result of government's recent mission to Taiwan, experts from that country are now here exploring areas of potential agricultural development. [Text] [Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 22 Sep 81 p 3]

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